



The

## CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

for RETAILER - WHOLESALE - MANUFACTURER

published 1859

28 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2

Registered as a Newspaper

3385  
CXLI

DECEMBER 23, 1944

Annual Subscription (with  
Diary) 25/- Single copies 9d.

## SYMBOL OF TRIUMPH



The events of the last fateful years are drawing to a close. Already, on November 11th, the famous avenue with its "Arc de Triomphe" has resounded to the pæans of Victory, and France has retaken her rightful place among the great powers who are remorselessly crushing the symbol of Evil.

**BURGOYNE BURBIDGES**

Established 1741. &amp; COMPANY LIMITED, LONDON. E.6

Safely may assume that this will be their last war-time message of Xmas Greeting and New Year Goodwill to their friends everywhere.

May Peace reign soon over our own revered and battle-scarred City and throughout the world.



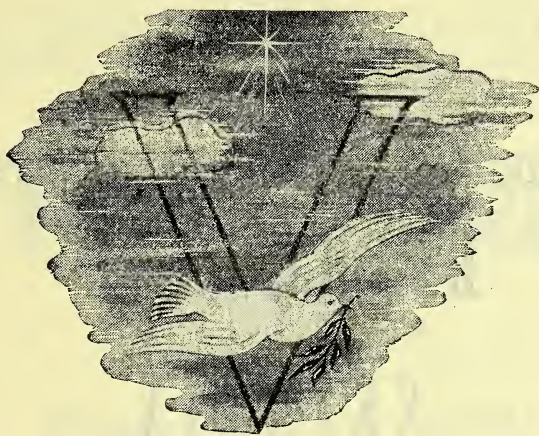
# WRIGHT'S

*Coal Tar Soap*

IS THE RULE FOR  
THE TOILET AND NURSERY



WRIGHT, LAYMAN & UMNEY, LIMITED  
SOUTHWARK · LONDON · S.E.1 · HOP 2315



**Monsanto** wish  
their friends a  
Happy Christmas  
and Prosperity  
for the future



MONSANTO  
CHEMICALS LIMITED  
RUABON, WREXHAM  
DENBIGHSHIRE



THREE NEW «WB» PRODUCTS

**DITHRANOL**

\*

TRADE **SKIADIN** MARK

**IODISED OIL**

\*

**IODOPHTHALEIN**

\*

*We shall be pleased to supply information regarding  
these and other «WB» products on request*

TRADE



MARK

---

**WARD, BLENKINSOP**

**& CO LTD**

CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS

**BROOKLANDS • HALEWOOD • LIVERPOOL**

Telephone: HUNT'S CROSS 1381. Telegrams: DUOCHEM L'POOL

**EMPIRE HOUSE • ST. MARTINS-LE-GRAND • LONDON • E.C.1**

MONarch 7411



MEDICAL

**EVANS**

SUPPLIES

# NOVASORB

(Hydrated Magnesium Trisilicate)

For the treatment of  
Hyperacidity of the Stomach  
especially in ulcerative condition

Novasorb provides for sustained control over gastric hyperacidity without producing an alkaline condition in the stomach. It thus presents a desirable improvement over the older antacids, where control is limited to the immediate reaction and where continued administration of excess alkali may induce alkalosis.

HIGH ADSORPTIVE PROPERTIES

WILL NOT GIVE RISE TO ALKALOSIS

WITH SUITABLE DOSES, DOES NOT DESTROY  
PEPTIC ACTIVITY

A SAFE ANTACID FOR GENERAL USE

## RETAIL PRICES

Powder - - - 2/-, 3/1, 10/-, and 40/-  
Tablets of 20 grains - - 1/8, 2/6 and 10/7

EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB LTD

FINE CHEMICALS ❧ BIOLOGICALS ❧ PHARMACEUTICALS

# KEROCAIN

(PROCAINE HYDROCHLORIDE KERFOOT)

## LOCAL ANAESTHESIA AT ITS BEST

Procaine Hydrochloride in an exceptionally pure and reliable form, conforming to standards considerably more stringent than those of the B.P.



Prepared under ideal conditions  
and the strictest analytical control.  
Always specify KERFOOT.

Thomas Kerfoot & Co. Ltd., Vale of Bardsley, Lancashire K.11

PROMOTES DEEP  
REFRESHING  
SLEEP

*Cadbury's*  
**BOURN-VITA**  
**NEEDS NO SUGAR**

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The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in this paper should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.

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Order your requirements NOW!

9/- per dozen less discount

6 dozen parcel less 5% & 2½%

12 " " " 10% & 2½%

F. C. CALVERT & CO. LTD., MANCHESTER, 11



## SEROCALCIN

PLEASE ORDER EARLY

In spite of heavy demand, stimulated by recommendations and National Press advertising, we are pleased to announce that we have been able largely to overcome supply difficulties. Chemists are, however, invited to place their orders early to avoid the possibility of future delays in delivery.

**SEROCALCIN PREVENTS COLDS**

Serocalcin is available in two sizes only:

20 tablets 3/4d.; 60 tablets 8/5d. including purchase tax.

HARWOODS LABORATORIES LTD., WATFORD, HERTS.

WATFORD 4457



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## Seasonable Greetings

To our innumerable friends in the Trade we extend our good wishes for Christmas, happy in the promise that 1945 will bring us Victory and a return to prosperous trading.

W. B. CARTWRIGHT LTD. • RAWDON • LEEDS

ASK YOUR  
CHEMIST...



IN our press advertisements we advise women to ask their chemist for a copy of "Hygiene for Women," by Nurse Drew.

50,000 direct applications prove women are vitally interested in feminine hygiene.

If you have not a good supply of these popular booklets for counter display then you are not getting your share of the ever-growing demand for the various Rendells Products.

Why not write us today for a supply of our latest Chemist Display Aid?

*Rendells*  
PRODUCTS

PATA

FOR FEMININE HYGIENE

W.J. RENDELL LTD · HARDWICK HOUSE · 161-5 ROSEBERY AVENUE · LONDON, E.C.1



MANUFACTURING  
CHEMISTS

**ARTHUR H. COX & CO. LTD.**

SPECIALISTS IN  
PILLS & TABLETS

**BRIGHTON**

Christmas 1944

CUXSON, GERRARD & CO. LTD.  
OLDBURY  
NR. BIRMINGHAM

and their representatives

**send Seasonal Greetings**

to all their friends in the trade  
and thank them for their co-operation

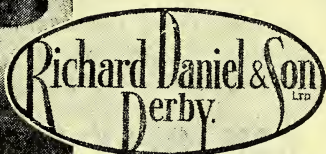
May 1945 bring a return to Peace and happier trading conditions,  
when our representatives will resume their calls





Established 1860

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**TABLETS**  
AND  
**PILLS**  
For the  
Pharmaceutical  
Trade



'Phone: Derby 4266-7-8. 'Grams: Dania Derby

## A Real Analgesic Alkaliser

This is the formula of Neodex Seltzer:

Lithii Benzoas. . . . .	3
Acidum Acetylsalicylicum. .	10
Acidum Citricum . . . . .	34
Sodii Bicarbonas . . . . .	to 100

Every pharmacist will appreciate how confidently he can recommend it for Headaches, Digestive Troubles and many types of Rheumatic and Neuralgic pains. There is no product on the market with the same combination of properties. It is *not* a laxative.

**NEODEX  
SELTZER**

INTERNATIONAL  
LABORATORIES LTD. **PATA**  
Charlbury - Oxford



## A Splendor Line you ought to stock

An excellent formula

—a striking pack

—a rapid seller

and steadily advertised.

In 6d. and 1/3 sizes. Prompt delivery  
from all wholesalers or direct from  
SPLENDOR LTD. - NOTTINGHAM

**PROPAX**  
DOUBLE POWER  
**TABLETS**

KILL PAIN QUICKEST!

*Fair Play  
& Fair Profit!*

**P.A.T.A.**

Will the end of war-time conditions of short supply see a recurrence of price-cutting to undermine the standards of people and traders? We join in the hope that such conditions will not materialise. What is perhaps more important to the chemist is that we are ready to tackle them if they do.

## YOU CAN RELY ON 'ASPRO'

'ASPRO' has not allowed its price maintenance organisation to rust or lose its efficiency. Throughout the war the same scrupulous control that made 'ASPRO' "red-hot" for the price-cutter and the cleanest line for the honest retailer, has been operating in the national interests. Now it is ready to go into action instantly at the first sign of a recurrence of price-cutting.

We are proud of the appreciation expressed by retailers and wholesalers alike of the service rendered them by this special branch within our organisation. Just as the public rely on 'ASPRO' for purity, safety and efficacy, so the chemist can rely on ASPRO Limited for fair play and fair profit which is protected with vigour and efficiency.

## 'ASPRO'

Made by ASPRO LIMITED, Slough, Bucks.

Telephone: Slough 22381

**ASPRO**  
REG. TRADE MARK

War demands  
oblige us to market  
**CURICONES**  
in tablet form.

This does not affect  
their efficacy in any  
way whatsoever.

Both the 5/- (Small  
size)  
and - 24/- (Large  
size)  
are now available again.

You can confidently  
recommend

## CURICONES

FOR ALL RHEUMATIC AILMENTS

ORDER THROUGH YOUR  
USUAL WHOLESALE

STEPHEN MATTHEWS & CO., LTD.  
19-21 Farringdon Road, London, E.C.4



*Announcing*  
**TYROTHRIN**  
CONCENTRATE, *Mulford*

*What is it?* TYROTHRIN CONCENTRATE, MULFORD, is a potent bactericidal agent derived from Dubos' soil bacillus (*Bacillus brevis*) . . . effective even in very high dilutions against several species of gram-positive organisms including pneumococci, streptococci, diphtheria bacilli, staphylococci, anaerobic bacilli and others.

*For what is it indicated?* TYROTHRIN is indicated in the treatment of superficial indolent ulcers, abscesses of the skin and soft tissues, mastoiditis, empyema, certain types of wound infections, and chronic purulent otitis media.

*How is it used?* TYROTHRIN is used for general purposes in diluted isotonic solution containing 0.5 mg. per c.c. by instillation, irrigation or wet dressing. It may be instilled into body cavities which do not connect with the blood-stream (paranasal sinuses, urinary bladder, pleural cavity). For topical application only.

*How is it supplied?* TYROTHRIN CONCENTRATE, MULFORD, is supplied in packages as follows :

M330-419. Package containing 1 c.c. ampoule of a solution of TYROTHRIN, 25 mg. per c.c., and a vial containing 49 c.c. of pyrogen-free, sterile, distilled water for diluting the concentrate before use.

M330-022. 20 c.c. vial of the solution of TYROTHRIN, 25 mg. per c.c.

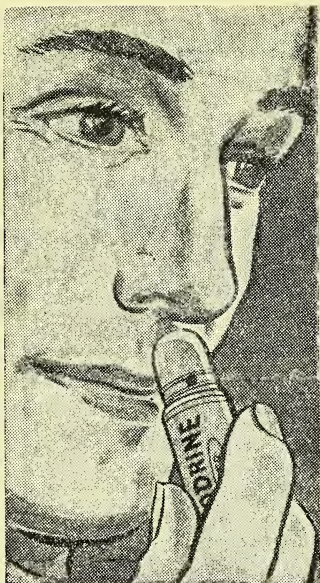
Literature sent on request.

*Sharp & Dohme Ltd*

MULFORD BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES  
HODDESDON

HERTS





# KARSODRINE

*Customers will be really grateful*

for the immediate relief this new vasoconstrictor affords to congested and inflamed nasal mucosa. Unlike sprays or nasal drops, the volatile decongestant, Amphetamine, penetrates to the furthest recesses of the naso-pharyngeal area affording instant and prolonged relief—whilst the bland antiseptic action of the combined formula affords a sense of real comfort and relief to sufferers from Nasal Catarrh, Head Colds, Sinusitis, and similar forms of nasal congestion.

FORMULA: Amphetamine 0.330 grm.; Cineole 0.093 grm.; Ol. Citronell. 0.026 grm.; Methyl Salicyl. 0.023 grm.; Ol. Cedri 0.005 grm.; Menthol 0.049 grm.; Ol. Eucalypt. 0.089 grm.

THE KARSODRINE INHALER retails at the reasonable price of 1/6 (inc. tax) yet shows you up to 5/2½d. per doz. profit, even on small quantities, when ordered with other Griffiths Hughes' lines. Send order to—

E. GRIFFITHS HUGHES LTD., 7, Adelphi, Salford, 3, MANCHESTER

**PATA**

A CHEMIST SAYS . . .

There is no  
remedy to  
equal it!



and am delighted to recommend Dr. Singha Tablets to my Asthma-suffering customers.

PRICES:

1/6, 5/-, 12/-, 20/-

(exclusive of purchase tax)

THE DR. SINGHA CO., LTD.  
CAERNARVON, NORTH WALES

**DR SINGHA**  
ASTHMA TABLETS

# Mistol

and

## Mistol with Ephedrine

$\frac{1}{2}$  oz.

and

two ounce sizes  
now available with

**DROPPERS**

STEMCO LIMITED

128, Albert Street, Camden Town, N.W.1.

# Optabs

EYE LOTION TABLETS



RECOGNISED as the most **CONVENIENT**  
and **EFFECTIVE** form of **EYE LOTION**

*Link up with our NATIONAL ADVERTISING*

Popular **BONUS PARCEL 13** to the dozen



					£	s.	d.
6 dozen 10d. at 6/-	..	..	..	..	1	16	0
1 .. 2/6 at 18/-	..	..	..	..	18	0	
					2	14	0
Less 5 per cent. cash with order	..	..	..	..	2	8	
					2	11	4
Purchase Tax at 16 2/3rd per cent.	..	..	..	..	8	7	
.. .. on bonus	..	..	..	..	9		
					£3	0	8

Send cash with order, or name of usual C.F. Wholesaler

**OPTABS LTD., 24, 26, 28 CHAPEL STREET, BRADFORD**

# Toxadent

## DENTURE TABLETS

... For cleansing and sterilising  
artificial dentures

*Conveniently Packed to ensure  
attractive display, and extensively  
supported by National and  
Periodical Publicity.*



**TWO SPECIAL BONUS  
PARCELS**

(1)		£	s.	d.
4 dozen 1/8 Toxadent at 12/-	..	2	8	0
Less 5% Cash with Order	..	2	5	
Purchase Tax at 33 1/3rd —	..	2	5	7
.. .. on bonus	..	15	3	
		1	3	
		£3	2	1
(2)		£	s.	d.
2 dozen 1/8 Toxadent at 12/-	..	1	4	0
3 .. 7 1/2d. .. at 4/6	..	13	6	
Less 5% cash with order	..	1	17	6
		1	11	
Purchase Tax at 33 1/3rd —	..	1	15	7
.. .. on bonus	..	11	10	
		1	0	
		£2	8	5

\* Trade Enquiries Invited from Bona-fide Wholesalers

**TOXADENT LTD., CHAPEL STREET, BRADFORD**









50% Profit on  
Purchase at Best  
Terms. Retail  
Price 2/3 incl.  
Purchase Tax.

# Persom-nia

*A first class  
Sleeping Tablet + Sedative*

★ NON TOXIC

★ NON HABIT FORMING

Persomnia—the safe sedative—induces restful, refreshing, natural sleep. Absolutely safe in use, has no after-effects, no cumulative action, and contains no free Bromide. May be taken safely even by children.

The excellent formula includes Bromisolvalerylurea and Carbromal.

The attractive and artistic display outer is an ornament on any counter.

National Advertising

starts on the 1st January, 1945, so order now to meet demand.

Obtain "Smalls" through your Wholesaler.

For best direct parcel terms apply to  
Distributors

**S. MAW, SON & SONS, LTD.**

**ALDERSGATE HOUSE, NEW BARNET, HERTS.**

**Persom-nia**  
TRADE MARK *for*  
**insomnia**

*The 7<sup>d</sup>*  
**PRUNOL**  
*sells on sight*  
**KEEP IT TO THE FRONT**



Prunol continues to increase in public favour. It is in constant demand for children and adults. Supplies are still available for prompt delivery from all wholesale houses.

Prunol sells at 7d. & 1/3 (including tax)

**PRUNOL PROPRIETARIES LTD.**

Sales Dept.  
Northington House  
NORTHINGTON ST., LONDON, W.C.1

**Prunol**  
**PASTILLES**  
THE IDEAL FRUIT LAXATIVE

**NODAN**

NODAN—Prepared from a new and highly scientific formula obtains results very rapidly. Eradicates scalp disorders, stops scurf irritation. Non-toxic, non-greasy, does not stain. Sells at 3/10½d. per bottle, including tax.

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY  
BONUS OFFER**

*Full particulars on application from the*

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS

**FASSETT & JOHNSON, LTD.**

86 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.1

# RHEUMAGIC

## The PAIN KILLER

Strenuous war work tends to increase the incidence of Rheumatism, Lumbago and similar ailments.

Rheumagic has proved its ability to give relief from pain and enables many sufferers who would otherwise be confined to the house to continue at their work.

Rheumagic makes no claim to cure Rheumatism and allied ailments. Its purpose is to relieve suffering, and by doing so speedily and effectively it makes a definite contribution to the National effort. Moreover, Rheumagic gives a guarantee of full satisfaction or money back.

### Rheumagic

Brand

FORMULA OILS

Retail Prices 1/5 and 3/4½ per bottle (inc. Pur. Tax)

INTERNATIONAL LABORATORIES, CHARLBURY, OXFORD



## PEAK SALES!

Nation-wide advertising is again keeping the tested merits of Sloan's Liniment before the public. Make sure of your share of the "better-than-ever" sales.

Write to—

**WILLIAM R. WARNER & CO. LTD.,**  
150-158, Kensington High Street, London, W.8.  
(Temporary Wartime Address).

Sole distributors to Dr. Earl S. Sloan Ltd.

**TERMS**  
to retail  
chemists only.

**SLOANS LINIMENT (P.A.T.A.)**

2/- per bottle (inclusive of tax)

6 DOZ. AT PER DOZ. | 12 DOZ. AT PER DOZ.

15/3

plus 2/8 tax.

14/9

plus 2/8 tax.

# SLOANS

## Liniment





## SCIENCE WITH PRACTICE

*Established 1833**Impression of our Wharf Road Extraction Plant*

## *Extracts*—

Only the finest raw materials are selected for the manufacture of StaffAllenS Pharmaceutical Extracts. These are prepared in many different forms—solid, liquid, granulated or powdered. Concentrated Extracts for making Tinctures, Infusions, Liquid Extracts, etc. are an important line. For uniform high quality, leading Manufacturing Chemists and Wholesale Druggists rely with confidence on Pharmaceutical Extracts by—

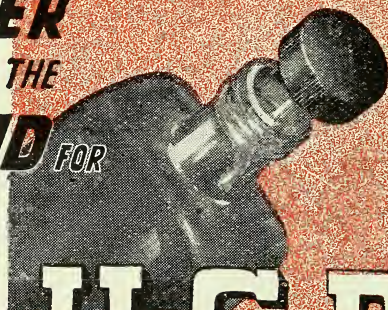
**StaffAllenS****STAFFORD ALLEN & SONS, LTD., WHARF ROAD, LONDON. N 1**

FAS/AL. 129

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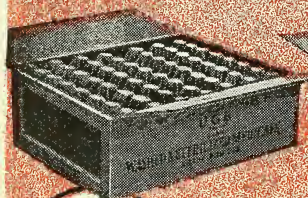


**GREATER**  
**THAN EVER IS THE**  
**DEMAND** *FOR*

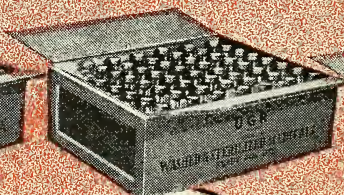


# U.G.B.

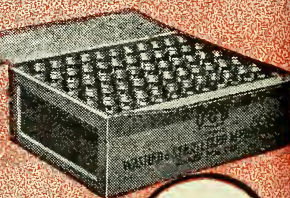
## MEDICAL BOTTLES



**CORK  
MOUTH**



**WHITE  
ENAMELLED  
METAL  
SCREW-CAP**



**KORKALITE  
MOULDED  
CAP**

**WASHED AND STERILISED  
—READY FOR USE—  
THE IDEAL  
DISPENSING BOTTLE  
IN ANY EMERGENCY**

**UNITED GLASS BOTTLE**

**MANUFACTURERS LTD.**

*The Largest Manufacturers of Glass Bottles  
in Europe*

**8 LEICESTER STREET, W.C.2**

Telephone : GERRARD 8611 (10 lines)

Telegrams : Unglaboman, Leasquare, London

# Make sure you Stock them both!

As lines which you ought to stock the two Parmints are inseparable. There is a big demand for both. But though both serve the same purpose of ending coughs and colds and influenza rapidly and pleasantly, some customers want the ready-mixed Parmint Syrup and others the good old Concentrated Essences. Please do your best to keep them in stock.

All our Press advertisements now mention the retail price of both the ready-mixed Parmint Syrup (1/5) and the good old Parmint Concentrated Essences (3/1½).

Both are both

**P.A.T.A.**

and



## PARMINT

*Concentrated Essences*

and

## PARMINT SYRUP

**INTERNATIONAL LABORATORIES  
LIMITED**

**CHARLBURY**

**OXFORD**





FIXED  
RETAIL PRICE

2/1 (Including  
Purchase Tax)

EACH PACKED IN A  
SEPARATE CARTON  
WITH INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR USE.

ATTRACTIVE WHOLE-  
SALE TERMS ON  
APPLICATION TO THE  
MANUFACTURERS.

BY MAKING ONE SAFETY-RAZOR BLADE  
LAST FOR HUNDREDS OF SHAVES.  
THESE HONES ARE MADE IN GLASS  
OF UNIQUE PROPERTIES WITH A  
SPECIALLY PREPARED SURFACE AND  
ARE PATENTED THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD.

**WOOD BROS. GLASS CO., LTD.**

(DEPT. H.I)

ESTABLISHED 1828

**BARNSELY**

TELEPHONE 3637-8-9

**ENGLAND**

TELEGRAMS: "WOODS, BARNSELY"



# VALDERMA

**SALES  
GET**

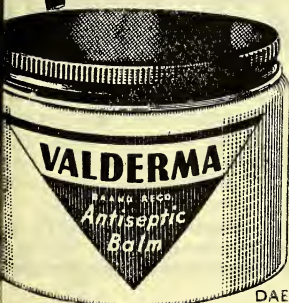
# BIGGER-BIGGER-BIGGER

**VALDERMA IS ADVERTISED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY IN  
NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS — PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPERS —  
NATIONAL PERIODICALS AND NATIONAL MAGAZINES**

★ **60,800,000** ★

**advertisements appear every month.  
No wonder Chemists everywhere say—  
VALDERMA is one of the quickest  
moving lines on their shelves to-day!**

*Stock up and display VALDERMA  
and get your share of  
this good business.*



Standard size 2/- a jar including Tax. Trade price 15/- per dozen. Purchase Tax 2/6 per dozen.  
Large size 3/6 a jar including Tax. Trade price 26/- per dozen. Purchase Tax 4/4 per dozen.

DAE HEALTH LABORATORIES LTD., 26 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.1

# FENNINGS

FAMOUS FOR OVER 80 YEARS

**PATA**

**FENNINGS' FEVER MIXTURE** .. .. . 1/3 a bottle

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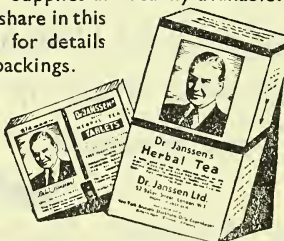
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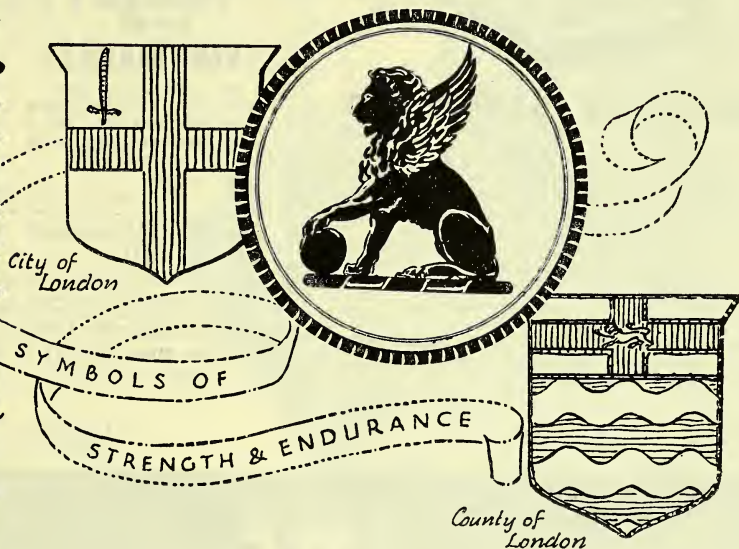
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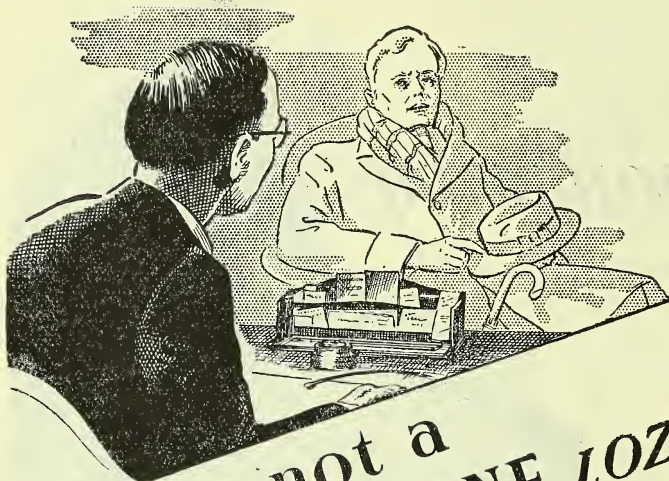
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## NEWS OF THE WEEK

**Statement on Equal Pay.**—The National Association of Women Pharmacists has submitted a statement of evidence to the Royal Commission on Equal Pay.

**Scottish Rose-hip Crop.**—The collection of rose hips in Scotland during 1944 exceeded the 1943 totals, the figures being 75 tons in 1944 against 70 tons in 1943.

**Warning to Scottish Chemists.**—The Scottish Pharmaceutical Federation has issued to its members a circular reminding them of the legal requirements in respect of dilutions of morphine or cocaine or their salts in inert substances.

**British Synthetic Rubber.**—In a written reply in the House of Commons on December 13, the Minister of Production (Mr. Oliver Lyttelton) said there had not as yet been any commercial production of general purpose synthetic rubber in this country.

**Location of Ministry of Food.**—On the conclusion of hostilities in Europe some of the Ministry of Food's work at present conducted from Colwyn Bay will be re-

transferred to London, whence it was moved in 1940. It is intended that the balance of the work, with the staff necessary to carry it out, will remain at Colwyn Bay.

**Shortage of Quinidine.**—The Ministry of Health states that the supply position of quinidine is becoming increasingly serious both here and in the United States. For some time past it has been impossible to meet all demands, and total stocks are insufficient to meet the anticipated requirements for 1945. The possibilities of adding to the stocks are remote. It is therefore imperative that quinidine should be used with the strictest economy.

**B.I.F. Resumption.**—The Secretary of the Department of Overseas Trade (Mr. Harcourt Johnstone) stated at a luncheon given by the Institute of Export in London on December 11 that, if the war situation allowed, the British Industries Fair might be revived in the spring of 1946, although it might not be possible to stage a really successful Fair until the spring of 1947. An officer fully able to deal with fairs and

exhibitions had been brought back to the Department, and arrangements were in hand for a resumption at the earliest possible moment.

**Increased Penicillin Supplies.**—In an address to the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene recently, Professor Sir Alexander Fleming (discoverer of penicillin) stated that the supply of the drug had increased enormously, and the mould was now being produced in America in 20,000-gall. tanks. There had been co-operation, he said, between manufacturers and Governments of Britain and the United States.

**More Teats for Ilford.**—The President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Dalton), in reply to a complaint made in the House of Commons on December 13 of a shortage of rubber teats in Ilford, said that the rate of delivery of teats in Ilford had risen considerably in the past two months, but, as elsewhere, there were considerable arrears of demand to overtake. Ilford seemed to be getting rather less than its fair share of supplies, and he had asked wholesalers to speed up their deliveries to that district.

**British Barytes Producers' Association.**—At the recent annual meeting of the British Barytes Producers' Association, the following officers were re-elected: *Chairman*, Colonel J. V. Ramsden; *Vice-chairman*, Mr. I. D. Orr; *Treasurer and Honorary Technical Consultant and Adviser*, Mr. Alexander Reid; *Auditor*, Mr. S. Key; *Secretary*, Mr. R. Mordin Drake, 166 Piccadilly, London, W.1. The meeting also appointed a chairman's advisory committee.

**Guild of Public Pharmacists.**—At a meeting of the council of the Guild of Public Pharmacists held on December 9, the following appointments were made: *Joint Secretaries*, Messrs. E. W. Barstow and J. Moore; *Co-editor of "Public Pharmacist"* (with Mr. J. W. Spence), Mr. T. D. Whittet, Ph.C. Correspondence should be addressed, in the first place, to the joint secretaries at 13 Loring Road, Whetstone, London, N.20. The Guild registrar's address is now Redhill County Hospital, Edgware, Middlesex.

**Manchester Lecture on Foot Troubles.**—Mr. Harry Brindle presided at a meeting of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association and Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society on December 14, when a lecture was given by Mr. W. Sayle Creer, M.Ch. (Orth.), on "Some Foot Troubles," illustrated by films in Technicolor. He dealt

with the anatomy and physiology of the foot; examples of pathology; and prevention and treatment of structural faults. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. W. E. Phillipson (president of the Association). The operator, Miss Foxall, was also cordially thanked.

**Vitamin Lecture at Leeds.**—Members of the Leeds Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society recently listened to an erudite lecture by Mr. F. C. Happold, Ph.D., on "Micro-biological Investigation of the Vitamin-B Complex." Dr. Happold dealt with his own researches into the isolation of B-complex components, as well as with many side issues. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Trefor Davies and seconded by Mr. P. Dobson. The chairman (Mr. C. S. Challinor), who presided, referred to the loss to the Branch by the death of Mr. S. N. Pickard (a former chairman), and asked the meeting to give the usual token of respect.

**Wolverhampton Dance.**—There was a large attendance at a dance held by the Wolverhampton Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society on December 6 in aid of the Society's War Aid and Benevolent Funds. The chairman (Mr. A. A. C. Whick) presented to Miss J. Blandford the Branch prize (a British Pharmaceutical Codex) and to Miss E. Norris the Association prize (Hampshire's "Volumetric Analysis"). The committee responsible for the arrangements included Messrs. Blenkinsop, Careless, Dyson, Frost, Pirie, Rimmer, Whick and the secretary (Mr. J. Foster Taylor). The M.C. was Mr. Cyril Davies.

**More Paper for Export Lists.**—The Paper Control has recently made available additional supplies of paper for catalogues intended to further export trade, and the censorship authorities are anxious to ensure that no delay should occur in the dispatch of such catalogues overseas. Catalogues or portions of them, dealing solely with goods offered for sale need not be submitted to the censor, but many manufacturers may wish to tell their customers something of the work they have done during the war and the experience they have gained from it. Such accounts of war activities, unless carefully considered, might reach the enemy, and give information of military value. They should accordingly be submitted for censorship. When passed, and when three specimen copies of the catalogue, as finally produced, are lodged with the Postal and Telegraph Censorship copies dispatched thereafter will be imme-

mediately released. Submissions and specimen copies should be sent to the Technical Section, Ministry of Information, Room 10, 10, Malet Street, London, W.C.1. A reminder is given that censorship permits are required for dispatch of catalogues by parcel post or as freight to certain countries. Applications should be addressed to the Censor-in-Charge, Permit Branch, Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department, Aintree, Liverpool, 9.

**Anti-locust Weapon.**—A new weapon in the war against locusts, introduced in the Middle East and East Africa, is a chemical compound still on the secret list and provisionally called "666." The new compound may replace sodium arsenite, the usual poison bait for locusts. It has already been used in the East African Colonial Territories, where locusts constitute an almost constant menace to crops, with results that are stated to be satisfactory. The preparation is made in this country, and is not dangerous to animals.

**Freewomen of Coventry.**—The decision of the Freemen of Coventry not to oppose in future the admission of women without necessary qualifications to the Freedom of the City recalls that the women's challenge was first laid down by a pharmacist, Miss Lily Stevenson, M.P.S. Miss Stevenson claimed and was admitted to the freedom of the City in 1937 (see *C. & D.*, 1937. II. 249), but the issue was contested and writs were issued against the mayor, corporation, town clerk, and Miss Stevenson. The matter has been in abeyance and the Freemen's Trustees have now decided to withdraw the action.

**Surgical Dressings J.I.C.**—At a meeting held on December 12, a National Joint Industrial Council was formally constituted in the surgical dressings industry. The Minister of Labour and National Service (Mr. Ernest Bevin) addressed the representatives of the employers and trade unions. The first chairman of the Council is Mr. F. M. Medhurst, with Mr. J. Alan Birch as deputy-chairman. Organisations represented on the Council are the Surgical Dressings Manufacturers' Association; Medical and Surgical Plaster Makers' Conference; Association of Sanitary Towel Manufacturers; National Union of General and Municipal Workers; National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers; National Union of Dyers, Bleachers and Textile Workers; National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks; and Transport and General

Workers' Union. The joint secretaries are Mr. G. F. M. Lyster, c/o Southalls, Ltd., Charford Mills, Birmingham, 8 (employers' side); and Miss D. M. Elliott, 5 Endsleigh Gardens, London, W.C.1 (representing the workers' side).

**Stilbæstrol in Cancer.**—At the annual meeting of the British Empire Cancer Campaign, held recently, a report was presented which recorded that the value of diethylstilbæstrol in treating cancer of the prostate gland had been completely confirmed. Numbers of sufferers had been rendered symptom-free by its use, and it had been found that the benefits achieved were often maintained over long periods. Apparatus capable of producing new types of radiation had been evolved, and the potentialities of the cyclotron (an adaptation of a powerful electric magnet) were being explored.

**Toilet Preparations Licences.**—It is announced that the value of licences issued to manufacturers whose names are entered on the Toilet Preparations Register, permitting the manufacture and supply of goods controlled under the Toilet Preparations (No. 3) Order, 1943, as amended by the No. 4 Order, 1943, will normally be calculated during the six months beginning January 1, 1945, at the following rates: 1, For registered manufacturers participating in approved concentration schemes,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; for registered manufacturers not participating in approved concentration schemes,  $16\frac{2}{3}$  per cent. The standard period on which these values will be based remains the year ended May 31, 1940. No licences issued to a registered manufacturer will be for an amount less than £250. Manufacturers are reminded that they may not supply under their licences controlled goods of any description not specified in the schedule to their licence; that controlled goods may be supplied only in containers of a size specified in the licence, unless supplies in bulk are expressly permitted; that the value given in the schedule to the licence in relation to each item of controlled goods is the minimum value which may be counted against the licence in respect of such goods; and that manufacture may take place only at the premises named in the licence.

**Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.**—The Association's Sunday ramble on December 24 will be to Bollington, Kettleshulme and Whaley. Members should assemble at London Road Station for the 9.20 a.m. train, and book return tickets to Bollington.



## WHAT CONSTITUTES TALCUM POWDER?

At Old Street, London, magistrates' court on December 12, Cussons, Sons & Co., Ltd., Kersal Vale, Manchester, 7, were summoned by the Bethnal Green Borough Council for an alleged contravention of the Food and Drugs Act. They pleaded not guilty. Prosecuting solicitor stated that on September 12 the Council's sampling officer purchased a box of talcum powder for 4s. from Mabyn & Co., Ltd., chemists, 145 Cambridge Heath Road, Bethnal Green, which was analysed and found to contain calcium carbonate, 27.4 per cent.; magnesium carbonate, 18.3 per cent.; and purified talc, 51.1 per cent. According to the public analyst, talcum powder should consist of purified talc, and should be free from the carbonates of calcium and magnesium. In the ordinary way the chemist supplier would have been prosecuted for selling the commodity to the prejudice of the purchaser, but when the authorities were satisfied that some other person was responsible for the commission of the alleged offence they could proceed direct against the manufacturer. The public analyst for Bethnal Green maintained that talcum powder should consist of purified talc, 100 per cent., basing his opinion on the standards set out in the British Pharmaceutical Codex. Talcum powder was used as a dusting powder and a lubricant.

### The Point in Question

In his opinion the carbonates of calcium and magnesium were not lubricants. Defending counsel suggested that the question was what a person would expect to get. The analyst said he did not know what the ordinary purchaser expected. He would expect pure talc. Further questioned, witness said he was saying that powdered talc as set out in the pharmaceutical Codex was the same thing as talcum powder sold in chemists' shops or in perfumery departments. He agreed that he could not show anything in the pharmaceutical Codex which laid down a standard for talcum powder. Although the British Pharmaceutical Codex did not say talcum powder it said powdered talc. It was only turning it round. Talcum powder and powdered talc were the same thing.

Counsel for defence: Have you anything to show that they are the same thing? I have shown you a standard work on the subject which says they are entirely different?—We can't go on a standard work on cosmetics.

Asked if he knew why the substance before the Court contained 18.3 per cent. of magnesium carbonate, the analyst replied in the negative. He knew that the preparation contained perfume, but did not think the carbonate necessary. Submitting that there was no case to answer, defending counsel observed that the analyst had very fairly said there was no standard laid down in the British Pharmacopœia for talcum powder. It was obvious that powdered talc and talcum powder were entirely different things. The court had to be satisfied, on the evidence, that a purchaser in a cosmetic shop, in asking for talcum powder, expected to get pure powdered talc.

### Evidence Called

The magistrate stated that he was not sure on that point, and evidence was called. Archibald Rayner, an analytical and consulting research chemist, said he saw no connexion between talcum powder and purified talc. By talcum powder he understood a toilet article which was used on the skin to act as a lubricant and which would almost certainly contain a proportion of pure talc. It should have the properties commonly associated with talc.

The magistrate: When you send out or sell a preparation under the name of talcum powder do you say that talc ought to form a majority? Witness: No, I would not say it need necessarily contain a majority. There should be a reasonable proportion of talc.

Giving his decision, the magistrate said his feeling was that if, as an ordinary purchaser, he asked for powdered talc he should expect talc reduced to powder form and nothing else in it. If he was asking for talcum powder he should take the view that it was a different article he was asking for. He had a feeling, therefore, that he was not helped at all, in coming to a conclusion in that case, by the definition which had been laid down as to what must be the constituents, and only constituents, of an article sold as powdered talc. "I have come to the conclusion here that the customer who is purchasing something described as talcum powder would have got what he expected to get if he had been supplied with the particular article which has been before me in this case." On these grounds he decided that the case for the prosecution had not been made out and dismissed the summons.

## TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

### A Nebulous Resolution

If the Ministry of Health takes the resolution of the Pharmaceutical Society's Council on the advertising of proprietary medicines (p. 642) at its face value, the staff is likely to have a busy time. The first point in your searching analysis on p. 639 may be subdivided into: (a) An abuse is alleged; (b) it is said to be widespread; (c) it is said to arise from the advertising of certain proprietary medicines. If this resolution is anything more than an expression of timid apprehension, we ought to be given specific facts in its support. As you justly point out, two general censorships are in operation, that of newspapers and that of leading manufacturers of proprietary medicines, in addition to the safeguard of the Chemists' Friends scheme. In this section some months ago the view was put forward that the competition of medicines advertised on a large scale—and accordingly submitted to the scrutiny of one or more of the censorships mentioned—has driven proprietary medicines of more limited reputation into side streets. Even so, I am not prepared to charge the advertisers of minor proprietaries with laxity in the claims made by them. Provincial newspapers like the "Eatonswill Independent" of "Pickwick" fame have ceased to exist. In looking through the few provincial papers of local circulation sent me more or less regularly by correspondents, I find that the amount of space allotted to advertisers of all kinds is generous compared with that imposed by "national" organs under the régime of the controller; but I see no evidence of advantage being taken of this generosity to make dubious claims. What form, then, does this alleged abuse take?

### Anæsthetics a Century Ago

The excellent article of Mr. J. Ross-Mansell on inhalation anæsthetics (pp. 634-35) reminds us that a century has elapsed since their use became systematic. As Sir Arthur Keith shows in "The Antiquity of Man" (I. 20), trepanning can be traced back about 4,000 years, and several skulls so treated are to be seen in museums. But the advent of general anæsthesia was long delayed. In a centenary address on Henry Hill Hickman, one of the pioneers in this now indispensable part of surgical routine, Lord Dawson of Penn remarked (C. & D., 1930. I. 452): "It is hardly too much to say that at long last the world tumbled into anæsthesia." Lord Dawson

went on to suggest that "the necessity and even the pride of rapid operating may have excluded other considerations from surgeons' minds. The great Liston prided himself on being able to amputate a leg at the hip joint in under a minute." Hickman, a West Country medical practitioner, who died at Tenbury in 1830, lived in a house that became, and so far as I am aware still is, a pharmacy. A book issued by the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum in 1930 placed on record in a permanent form the chief facts of his life. Carbon dioxide was his selected means of rendering animals unconscious before operating. In spite of approaches to Sir Humphry Davy and other influential people of his day, Hickman failed to obtain satisfactory recognition of the importance of his work; but in 1847 Dr. Thomas Dudley, of Kingswinford, took measures to rectify the omission.

### Some Early Advertisements

Addison's contributions to "The Tatler" of September 14 and October 19, 1710, are based on two subjects so closely related as to become, by his method of treatment, practically one. In the first of these issues he discusses advertisements: in the second, quack medicines. A satirical introduction on the uses of advertisement leads to the mention of various methods of catching the eye. "Asterisks and hands were formerly of great use for this purpose. Of late years the N.B. has been much in fashion, as also little cuts or figures, the invention of which we must ascribe to the author of spring-trusses." The "author" of the trusses was probably Bartlet, one of whose advertisements was reproduced in facsimile in your Annual Special Issue (p. 836) in 1930: in that advertisement Bartlet's Elixir Mirabile was also recommended. Addison proceeds to make merry over an announcement sent, with a remittance, for insertion in "The Tatler." The first sentence will suffice as a specimen. "The highest compounded spirit of lavender, the most glorious, *if the expression may be used*, enlivening scent and flavour that can possibly be, which so raptures the spirits, delights the gust, and gives such airs to the countenance, as are not to be imagined but by those that have tried it." The price was 3s. 6d. a bottle. Near the end of the article there is "a public admonition to Michael Parrot, that he do not presume any more to mention a certain worm he knows of."

**Xrayer**

## EMPIRE AND FOREIGN NEWS

**Civilian Penicillin in Canada.**—The recent award of quotas of penicillin to twenty-five Canadian hospitals, with more than twenty-five beds each, has already been doubled, and at the same time the price has been reduced by 25 per cent.

**U.S. Drug Merger.**—The Anacin Co., Kolynos Co., Bisodol Co., Larned Corporation, and Anacin Manufacturing Co., five subsidiaries of Home Products Corporation, have been merged into a single operating unit known as Whitehall Pharmaceutical Co. The companies will retain present trade names, but all management functions are being consolidated.

**South African Advertising Standards.**—Under a code of standards accepted by the annual congress of the Newspaper Press Union of South Africa, newspapers in the Dominion become entitled to modify or reject advertisements containing exaggerated claims, or which cause readers to feel that they are suffering from, or may suffer from, a serious ailment unless they take the treatment offered.

**Canadian Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education.**—The establishment of a Canadian Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education, parallel to a similar organisation which already exists in the United States, is likely shortly to come into being. In an address to students at the Ontario College of Pharmacy recently, Mr. William S. Harrison (chairman of Ayerst, McKenna & Harrison) stated that a meeting of Canadian faculties from all the provinces had been held, and that the proposal of a Canadian Foundation had met with approval on all sides. Under such a Foundation, ambitious students would be able to take specialised post-graduate courses, he said.

**U.S. Penicillin Reaches South Africa.**—The first stocks of penicillin for civilian use have arrived in the Union of South Africa by air from the United States, the Director-General of Supplies has announced. The quantity is extremely limited, and it will not be possible to make the drug generally available. The Controller of Medical Requisites has formed a special technical committee (the Penicillin Distribution Committee) to control distribution and ensure its utilisation to the best advantage. In making the supplies available, the U.S. suppliers determined the conditions under which the material may

be used. At Durban, in addition to imports a medical authority said there was a reasonable hope that the drug would soon be prepared locally. A biochemist on the staff of a Johannesburg pharmaceutical laboratory collected moulds locally and after a two years' search, discovered the one that produces penicillin. This is now "in very short supply, because the process of production is laborious and slow, but we are gradually getting more of the drug and it is given free of charge to any doctor who requires it."

**Soviet Perfumery.**—Svoboda toilet soap, face cream, tooth-powder and pine extract constitute a range of toilet preparations in widespread use in the Soviet Union. They come from the oldest perfumery in the Union, founded in Moscow by Alphonse Rallais, a Frenchman, a century ago. Since the Revolution the factory has been entirely remodelled and greatly enlarged, and the equipment is claimed to be as up to date as any in the world. The hundredth birthday of the organisation was celebrated recently at the factory club, Moscow, by a jubilee meeting, concert and banquet, at which was also celebrated the winning of first place in an inter-factory competition. British and American airmen then on Soviet territory, as well as Red Army officers and men, were given from the organisation, to mark the then forthcoming twenty-seventh anniversary of the Revolution, a selection of Svoboda products, in special holiday wrappings. Since the outbreak of war the works has been turning out special items such as a small kit for submarine sailors. This contains mouth-wash, tooth-paste and brush, soap, skin lotion and eau de Cologne. The special soap lasts four times as long as an ordinary cake, and the tooth-paste is also concentrated. The Army is supplied with a shaving soap that lathers in little water and acts as a disinfectant. For the Red Navy the factory issues a soap that gives a rich lather even in salt water. Fifteen kinds of soap are made for infantrymen, tankmen and the air force, the varieties including rose, lilac, violet, Red Moscow, Red Poppy, Snowflake Exotika, and Victory. The factory produces eighteen varieties of vanishing and cold creams, the Health brand being the most popular. Special soaps are made for babies and children, and there is a choice of five shades of lipstick. The Svoboda works makes its own tubes, boxes and jars, and does its own packaging.



## COMPANY NEWS

**PRESCRIPTION PRODUCTS, LTD. (P.C.).**—Capital £1,000. Wholesale or retail chemists, manufacturers of and dealers in proprietary articles, etc. Robert J. Wright, director. R.O.: 10 Abbey Grove, Stockport.

**MAYFIELD CLINIC (WARLINGHAM), LTD. (C.).**—Capital £5,000. To carry on clinics, including physiotherapy, radiotherapy, hypnotherapy and electrical treatment, etc. Directors to be appointed. Solicitor: B. Layton Kenward, 1 New Square, London, E.C.2.

**W. CHAPLIN BENNETT, LTD. (P.C.).**—Capital £3,000. To acquire the business of pharmacist and optician carried on by C. Bennett. William Chaplin Bennett, P.S., Mrs. P. L. C. Bennett and Mervyn Arthur, directors. R.O.: 39 Fore Street, Exeter, Devon.

**BLAKE, SANDFORD & BLAKE, LTD. (P.C.).**—Capital £6,000. To acquire the business of a chemist and druggist formerly carried on by the executrix of the late Charles A. Blake. Kathleen M. Blake, Louis H. Blake and Benjamin James, directors. R.O.: 1 Dover Street, London, W.1.

**MAJOR CHEMICAL CO., LTD. (P.C.).**—Capital £500. Manufacturers of and dealers chemicals, drugs, fertilisers, colours, toilet requisites, proprietary articles, etc. William Routledge, M.P.S., and Joan Routledge, directors. R.O.: 108 Church Street, Blackpool.

**ILFORD, LTD.**—Net profit for the year amounted to £145,766, against £129,904 in the previous twelve months. Distribution of the ordinary stock will be 12½ per cent. against 10 per cent.).

**IDRIS, LTD.**—Directors' report for year ended October 31 records net profit, after charging debenture interest and providing for depreciation and taxation, of £12,916 (against £12,059). This, with the balance brought forward from last year and £2,500 transferred from reserve for equalisation of dividends, makes a total of £15,573 (£15,157). It is recommended to pay, on A preference shares, 6 per cent.; on B preference shares, 10 per cent.; on A ordinary shares, 10 per cent.; on B ordinary shares, 10 per cent.; on founders' shares, 5 per cent., leaving a balance to carry forward of £573 (£157). Two directors, Messrs. Ivor F. Idris and W. Bennett Opie, retire and are eligible for re-election.

## SOUTH AFRICAN VITAMINS

THE South African concerns that extract vitamins from sharks' livers are extending the range of their technique to the livers of stockfish and of snoek and maasbankers. It has also been found that vitamin is present in other parts of the fish. The fishermen are being taught, with some difficulty, to separate the parts of the intestines nearest to the stomach, and one or two other parts from the refuse, when cleaning. Vitamin A is the principal vitamin extracted, but a small quantity of vitamin D is also obtained. Recently it was announced that the superintendent and inspector of the Government guano islands, with two professors from the University of Cape Town, had visited Dyers Island, on which research work on seal oil is being carried out. The island is the southernmost belonging to the African continent, lying between Cape Agulhas and Danger Point. Here, and at other places in South Africa, a new industry is being built up on the extraction of vitamin-bearing oils from fish and mammals. In the eight years since Christopher Molteno began his experiments in extracting oil from stockfish and fish livers bought from fishermen and dealers, the industry has expanded until today its annual production is equivalent, in vitamin-content, to more than one million gallons of cod liver oil, exceeding the output of Newfoundland.

The oil sells, in crude form, at a wide range of prices per gall., according to potency. More than £200,000 worth annually is now being produced, and the output is increasing rapidly as more sources are exploited. Molteno qualified as a Doctor of Chemistry at Cape Town University in 1938. By that time the vitamin value of oil extracted from certain sharks' livers had been discovered in America, and Molteno had switched over his experiments from edible fish to sharks. He discovered that the liver of the Vaalhaai shark contained valuable vitamin-bearing oil.

**Where Your Waste Paper Goes!**—This year the United States Eighth Air Force has struck effectively deep into the heart of Germany. . . . Fighter aircraft have been able to fly the extra distance because they have been equipped with detachable auxiliary tanks, almost all of them made in Britain from old newspapers and other waste paper, pressed and treated under a formula first developed by British technicians.—From the 17th Report to U.S. Congress on Lend-Lease.

## PERSONALITIES

MR. K. BOHEMEN (Polak & Schwarz (England), Ltd.), who is now serving with the Netherlands Forces overseas, sends greetings and good wishes to all his friends in Britain.

MR. W. E. HEAP, M.P.S., has received hearty congratulations on taking up the claim of Burnley people for increased clothing coupons because of the severity of the local climate. Burnley Chamber of Trade is making representations to the Government on the subject. Mr. Heap points out that Burnley's annual rainfall is 42.8 in., while dust deposits in the locality are heavier than in any other industrial district.

MR. C. E. HAMMOND, a director and the northern representative of Lofthouse & Saltmer, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Hull, recently completed fifty years' service with the company. He was apprenticed in 1894, and passed through all departments. After being a junior clerk for some time, he was appointed town traveller in 1904. In 1919 he was transferred to the north-east area, making Middlesbrough his headquarters. At present he is assisting the company at Hull. He hopes it will not be long before he is again making regular visits.

## DEATHS

BAILEY.—On December 8, Mr. Robert Harper Bailey, M.P.S., 5 The Grove, Rossall Beach, Cleveleys, Blackpool, aged forty-five.

BURBANK.—Recently, Mr. Cecil Anthony Burbank, M.P.S., 116 Walton Street, Oxford. Mr. Burbank qualified in 1921.

CLARKE.—Recently, Mr. R. A. Clarke, sales manager for and sometime contracts manager of Thermos (1925), Ltd., aged forty-five. Mr. Clarke had been ill for more than a year, but his death has come as a shock, as it was not suspected that his condition was so serious. He had been with the Thermos company for more than sixteen years.

COOKSON.—On December 10, Mr. Joseph Cookson, 22 Central Drive, Ansdell, Lytham St. Anne's, Lancs, aged eighty-two. Mr. Cookson qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1885.

HOLMES.—On November 29, Mr. Ernest Holmes, M.P.S., 241 Manchester Road, Heaton Chapel, Stockport, aged fifty-two.

JOHNSON.—On November 1, Mr. Walter Thomas Johnson, M.P.S., 245 Hainau Road, Leytonstone, London, E.11, aged seventy-five. [Corrected note.]

LOEWY.—In London, recently, Dr. Julius Loewy (a member of the Health Commission of the International Labour Office, and chairman of the Czechoslovak Medical Association in London), aged fifty-nine.

NEWTON.—At Newhu Cottage, Thatch Leach Lane, Whitefield, on December 1, Mrs. Henrietta Newton, widow of the late Captain Arthur Newton (for many years representative for Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., Manchester), aged seventy.

PHILLIPS.—At Pinhoe, Devon, on December 7, Mr. Ernest Ellis Phillips, formerly of 44 Ryelands Road, Leominster, Hereford, aged fifty-six. Mr. Phillips qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1911.

## WILLS

CAPTAIN WALTER EDMUND EVANS, B.Sc. A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., R.A.S.C., consulting chemical engineer (a partner in Mactaggart & Evans, London), left £1,757, with net personalty £1,681.

MR. EWART JEPSON, chemist and druggist, 45 Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, formerly in business for many years at Duckworth Street, Darwen, Lancs, left £4,033, with net personalty £3,124.

MR. PATRICK MORRIS, St. Ann's Hill, Hydro, Blarney, co. Cork (late managing director, of E. Ryan & Co., soap and candle manufacturers), left personal estate Great Britain and Eire valued at £22,293.

## INQUESTS

About 100 Aspirins.—At Swansea, recently, a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was given on a discharged soldier who died from medullary depression due to aspirin poisoning. It was stated that he must have taken about 100 tablets.

Epileptic's Overdose.—A suicide verdict was returned at West Bromwich, recently on Joseph Griffiths, 33 Nelson Street, who died as a result of taking an overdose of tablets prescribed for epilepsy.

Penicillin Fails to Save.—At Liverpool on December 5, the Liverpool Coroner gave a finding in accordance with the medical evidence on a meat carrier, who after getting a scratch on the palm of his hand was attended by a doctor, went into hospital, had three injections of penicillin, but eventually died.

## TRADE NOTES

**Galénicals and Essences.**—J. Goodman (Chemicals), Ltd., Chiswick, London, W.4, offer chemists a range of fine chemicals and essences, galénicals, essences, etc.

**Transparent Teats.**—Cannon Rubber Manufacturers, Ltd., 5A Welbourne Road, Tottenham, London, N.17, point out that modern teats for feeding-bottles are now being made in natural-colour transparent rubber.

**New Chemical Specialities.**—Ward, Blenlock & Co., Ltd., Brooklands, Halewood, Liverpool, invite inquiries from chemists about three new specialities of the company: Dithronal, Skiadin iodised oil, and Sphothalein.

**Stocks Available.**—Esco (Rubber), Ltd., Stamford Hill, London, N.16, state that they have stocks available of Primrosette double sanitary towels, enemas, douche bags, and a range of other sundries.

**Hygienic Tampons.**—Fems Manufacturing Co., 306 Stockport Road, Manchester, invite trade inquiries for Fems hygienic tampons. The product is available in packets of ten, and shows a handsome profit to the dealer.

**Now Available with Droppers.**—The nasal solutions Mistol and Mistol with ephedrine are now available from the makers, Stemco, Ltd., 128 Albert Street, Camden Town, London, N.W.1, in  $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. and 2-oz. sizes, complete with droppers.

**Import and Export.**—H. Frischmann, 1 Finchchurch Buildings, London, E.C.3, points out that he is correctly described as an import and export merchant, and not as classified in *The Chemist and Druggist Directory and Year Book*, 1945. Recipients of the *Diary* are asked to make the alteration.

**In Full Supply.**—Ionic Laboratories, Ltd., although, state that they are now able to manufacture enough Roll Call brushless shaving-cream to satisfy present demands. Terms are given in an announcement in this issue. The company's Scottish distributors are the Southern Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 187 Vincent Street, Glasgow, C.2.

**Christmas Greetings.**—Advertisers who send Christmas greetings to their customers in announcements in this week's issue include: W. B. CARTWRIGHT, LTD., Rawdon, Leeds; CUXSON, GERRARD & CO., LTD., Oldbury, nr. Birmingham; MONSANTO CHEMICALS, LTD., Ruabon, Wrexham; and WILLIAM SESSIONS, LTD., the Ebor Press, York.

**Graduated Glassware.**—For everyday laboratory use, Pyrex brand glassware, manufactured by James A. Jobling & Co., Ltd., Wear Glassworks, Sunderland, is graduated to the Class B standard of the National Physical Laboratory. Class A graduations can be supplied for meticulous analytical or research work, if desired, at a proportionately higher cost. The goods are supplied only through laboratory furnishers, but chemists may obtain copies of an illustrated catalogue on application to the makers.

**Bactericidal Agent.**—Sharp & Dohme, Ltd., Mulford Biological Laboratories, Hoddesdon, Herts, draw attention to Tyrothricin concentrate, Mulford, which is described as a potent bactericidal agent derived from Dubos' soil bacillus, and effective in high dilutions against certain species of gram-positive organisms. The preparation is available in packages containing a 1-c.c. ampoule of a solution of Tyrothrycin (25 mgm. per c.c.), associated with a phial containing 49 c.c. of pyrogen-free sterile distilled water; and in 20-c.c. phials containing Tyrothricin solution.

**Christmas Holiday Closings.**—The following manufacturers, in addition to those given last week (*C. & D.*, December 16, p. 630), have notified their intention of closing on December 23, 24, 25 and 26: BRITISH SCHERING, LTD., London, W.C.1 (urgent requirements from John Bell & Croyden, 50 Wignmore Street, W.1, or William Martindale, 50 Wignmore Street, W.1); H. R. NAPP, LTD. (urgent orders from John Bell & Croyden, 50 Wignmore Street, London, W.1, or R. Woolby Brooke, 38 Gloucester Road, London, S.W.7); PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES (MAY & BAKER), LTD., Dagenham (urgent orders from John Bell & Croyden, 50 Wignmore Street, London, W.1, or Curtis & Co., Ltd., 79 Baker Street, London, W.1.).

## Business Change

MR. J. PH. C. WESSING (Polak & Schwarz (England), Ltd.), who has worked for the past few years for the Kenya Government, has now been released and is resuming his full-time duties with the company. Mr. Wessing is special travelling sales representative for the following territories: British India, Union of South Africa, British Africa, Rhodesia, Portuguese East Africa, Burma, Thailand, Straits Settlements, Hongkong.



# THE SAGA OF STRATHPEFFER

by J. Ross-Mansell, B.Sc., M.P.S.

## VI.—Ghost Story

*"I have endeavoured in this Ghostly little book to raise the Ghost of an Idea, which shall not put my readers out of humour with themselves, with each other, with the Season, or with me. May it haunt their houses pleasantly, and no one wish to lay it."*

—CHARLES DICKENS, December 1843.

AS another year draws to a close, we may remind ourselves, like Doctor Jeddler in Dickens's "Battle of Life," that "it is a world full of hearts, and a serious world, with all its folly," and "a world we need be careful how we libel,



At the back of his pharmacy, eating a hurried meal

Heaven forgive us."

The things Strathpeffer has done, his sins of omission and commission, may have occasioned our displeasure, though only because in him we see our own reflection. In the words of John Locke—that great philosopher interested in the work-

ings of the human mind, rather than in the outward lives of the men and women around him—"We should do well to commiserate our mutual ignorance and endeavour to remove it in all the gentle and fair ways of information, and not instantly treat others ill, as obstinate and perverse, because they will not renounce their own and receive our opinions, . . . when it is more probable that we are no less obstinate in not embracing some of theirs."

### Gastronomy

So, not treating him ill, we look in upon Strathpeffer, blissfully unaware of the ripples he has caused in the pond of smug complacency, sitting one evening at the back of his pharmacy, eating a hurried meal which is, in fact, lunch, tea, and dinner rolled into one. The day's work has been heavy. So much of the trade has been in preparations of a pre- or post-prandial corrective kind that reflection brings forth from Strathpeffer the observation that pharmacy (and medicine for that matter) would be in the doldrums indeed were it not for the stomach. Consider what loss would result from an orderly, self-

disciplined, intelligently eating population giving this organ of the body adequate respect and consideration, and leaving enough time and energy to get on with his work! Strathpeffer, no wiser than his clients, bolts his last mouthful of cold sausage, takes, for his dessert, a prophylactic dose of pulv. mag. trisilicat. co., and settles down in his armchair for a spell of fire-watching.

### War-time Christmas

At this war-time Christmas, trade has been disappointing, since what little quota of seasonable goods he was able to get were in a few hours. It seems, perhaps, odd that the milliner next door had an impressive display of bath salts (from 8s. 5d.) and perfumes (from 24s. 11d.); and that the hairdresser further down could show a profusion of shaving brushes and cosmetics alleged to have originated from Bond Street. Strathpeffer thinks of "the good old days," when a selling price of 8s. 5d. for bath salts and 24s. 11d. for a perfume of doubtful vintage would have landed a vendor and purchaser in an observatory ward, and sighs. In those days salesmanship was not fraught with the hazards of incarceration. He leans back in his chair in his heart a nostalgia for the days when windows were full of Christmas gifts, when "doodle-bugs" would have signified nothing intelligible, and when fire-watching was a Halloween ritual. However, on the whole

and in terms of pharmaceutical conditions, he wishes for no return to the past: the long working days, the seven-day week, and the perpetual fear that one of the next-door shops would blossom forth into yet another pharmacy, despite the existence already of nine (four "multiples" and five "privates," maintaining a life of independent and impeccable isolationism) within a mile radius.



For his dessert, a prophylactic dose of pulv. mag. trisilicat. co.

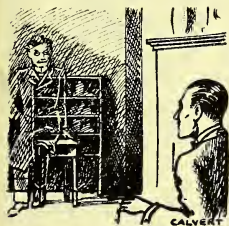
### Enter the Ghost

His reverie is interrupted by a cough—not his own. From our invisible vantage point we are not surprised that Strathpeffer

is startled, not to say alarmed. The front door is locked, yet . . . that quiet, polite cough is heard again, a cough which seems to say "Excuse me! But would you mind paying attention!" a cough for which Strathpeffer's V2 cough cure is too drastic a remedy. Strathpeffer, in spite of the pulv. mag. trisilicat. co., feels slightly distended, and realises that his tachycardia is not entirely due to wind. He is about to muster enough courage to ask "Who's there?" when he notices that on a layer of multi-coloured film deposited in the course of time on an unoccupied stool by many carelessly opened containers, apparently indifferent to an accretion of malt extract which a person careful where he sat would have avoided, is sitting a strangely reminiscent figure. The face is blurred like an out-of-focus negative, and there is something uncanny in the way the head fails to form a coherent part of the body to which it is attached. For a brief second the face flashes into sharp definition, and Strathpeffer realises that there, large as life, is Uncle Caleb.

"You're not scared, my boy?" asks Uncle Caleb, settling his head firmly on his shoulders by way of reassurance, and emitting an odour of old of aniseed and camphor.

"Why, uncle, I should say I'm not!" we hear Strathpeffer say with some heat. "After blitzes and doodle-bugs, you don't think I could be afraid of apparitions!" His voice adopts a quieter, questioning tone. "I—er—suppose you *are* a ghost, Uncle?"



A strangely reminiscent figure

### Is This the New Order of Things?

Uncle Caleb emits a hearty laugh. "Why, bless my soul, what would Christmas be without its ghost? And if you have to have one,

it might as well be me!" He gazes on his nephew approvingly. This nonchalance was something he did not expect. He made sure there would be a "scene," and is indeed relieved to find he was mistaken. His fear on this score was occasioned by a certain unfamiliarity in his surroundings. Where the spirit. ammon. aromat. is now kept, goodness alone knows. His shop-rounds, once so sparkling and clean, have disappeared from the mirrored

shelves, and in their stead are a motley array of proprietaries, some of them in still familiar garb. But what on earth are they doing there? Has his nephew gone crazy? What sort of a pharmacy is it that has no shop-rounds? As he glances round the profaned shelves, his head waggles ominously from side to side. Is this the new order of things? He does not like it in the least.

By some inexplicable process Strathpeffer is able to divine what his uncle is thinking.

"At least, Uncle,"

he says, "there is one thing you will *not* find on those packages you condemn, and that is a gummed slip with 'Price 1s. 3d. Our price 10½d.' The days of that sort of thing are gone, and for good, I hope." Uncle Caleb, surprised, stretches



Surely caps and gowns are the insignia of a profession

out a filmy arm to reach a box of yellow pills ostensibly worth a guinea a box, but whose selling price in his own day was the subject of much disagreement. "Do you mean to say you get full price for these things now?" he asks. "What about—er—what is their name now? It fails me for the moment, yet only yesterday the man was telling me his son had addressed the House of Lords! Don't tell me his firm have gone respectable! We had an awful time convincing him where we are now that offering halos at 10 per cent. discount on Saturdays and two for the price of one on Sundays wasn't in the least ethical."

### Cap and . . . Bells?

His voice trails off, and for a moment Strathpeffer thinks his uncle has gone, but looks round to find him standing by the dispensing scales depressing the lever. "Umph!" we hear him grunt, "just about right, my boy, but I see you still have that blob of wax under the left pan. It always used to be great fun getting those pans to balance!" He glances at the bottles strewn round the counter and notices with obvious delight that his labels—so beautifully written in an out-worn fashion that insisted on legibility—are still there, even though time, and holding the bottles the wrong way up, have left their marks. "I am glad I came back, if only for an evening," he says. "It's kind of you to



say so, Uncle," Strathpeffer answers, "but Christmas isn't what it used to be." "It never was, my boy," says Uncle Caleb, wondering what on earth "tinct. opii camph.," the title on one of the printed labels, can be. "I went along to Bloomsbury Square before I came here, but that does not seem to have altered much. I did meet a young man in cap and gown, but as I was just an ordinary member I suppose he would not have deigned to see me even if he had been able. Not that I don't hold with caps and gowns, but . . ." he looks round what was once his pharmacy, "they won't go down very well here, will they?"

"Oh! I don't know about that," Strathpeffer has quite a hurt note in his voice, "our syllabus is not the simple thing it used to be in your day. We have to move with the times, and surely caps and gowns are the insignia of a profession." Uncle Caleb laughs, rather hollowly.

### Promotion

"So you call it a *profession* now, do you? My boy, in my day we wore frock coats and top hats as a sign of gentility. It was all part of the game of impressing the *hoi-polloi* with the mystery and dignity of our *craft*. What mystery is there now, when your shelves are robbed of their coloured liquids and all the—the . . ."—he seems unable to find the word he wants, but waves his translucent arms in the direction of the proprietaries—"when all my lovely shop rounds have been hidden out of sight, and the public is told the liver has to produce two pints of fluid a day to keep the body from falling apart!"

Strathpeffer, uncomfortable, eases the pressure of his collar. Wagging his forefinger in front of his uncle, he remonstrates with him, much as we do with anybody who adopts a superior attitude. "Now look here, Uncle, just you think of the stuff we had to sell in *your* day! Dr. Bodie's electric liniment, for example, and—er—just think of that notice, 'Ears Syringed,' in the window!" He stutters in indignation. "And remember Sat-saturdays? How you made me put up *hundreds* of penny packets of liver pills and Epsom salts! What a cons-s-tipated lot everybody was on Sas-saturdays! And a free sh-sh-shampoo sachet with every s-sale on S-saturdays! And all the other stunts we had to get up to. Gosh! *you* ought to talk!"

### Beyond Belief

Thus lost to all respect for his ghostly uncle, Strathpeffer is unable to think

calmly. It is past belief that his uncle should speak of the past as if it merited quoting. Pharmacists had nothing to learn from the past except the mistakes they had made! He cannot contain himself any longer, and positively shouts "Do you remember sending me out at night, when all decent folks were abed, to see whether old Smith down the road was still open, and, if he was, we darn well had to keep open too! And I expect old Smith waited for us to close, and only sheer exhaustion made him throw in the towel!"

Uncle Caleb's head seems to be wagging strangely, dilating and contracting under the pressure of these awkward recollections. "Blow your frock coats and top hats!" finally blurts out Strathpeffer. But before Uncle Caleb can rebuke his nephew the air becomes filled with a shrill, all-pervading sound which wanes and alternately roars in ferocity, making further conversation impossible. "What on earth is that?" asks a startled Uncle Caleb. "Oh! that's an alert," answers Strathpeffer in a reassuring tone. "You had better go now, Uncle, because I have to get on duty."

### Too Much for the Ghost!

Uncle Caleb is scared. Even ghosts find "Wailing Winnie" a little overwhelming! "All right, my boy, I had better go. But whenever you have cold sausage for supper I shall come and see you again."

Strathpeffer turns to look at his uncle, only to find him slowly disappearing through the floor. Sitting upright in his chair, now very wide awake, he hears the siren still reaching out its tentacles of shrill warning across the night air. Rising slowly, he makes for the door and vanishes into the Stygian darkness to take up his post.

"And so," as Tiny Tim observed, "a Christmas full of promise of happiness and content, and may God bless us, every one."

**Down the Sink.**—A doctor and ambulance were rushed to Temple Meads Station, Bristol, after receiving an urgent message from a mother in another town saying that before her soldier son left home she "gave him something out of a wrong bottle." She asked the authorities to meet the train on which he was travelling. Messengers calling the name of the soldier went through the train when it arrived, and the son was found—hale and hearty. . . . He explained, "Mother always gives me a dose of medicine to take when I am going away. I always pour it down the sink when she isn't looking."

## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

MR. CHARLES ABERNETHY (president) was in the chair at the monthly meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland held on December 8. Messrs. James McDowell (vice-president), J. W. Gray, J.P. (treasurer), J. Glendinning, H. F. Moore, James Irwin, J. McGregor, W. C. Tate, J. T. Nicholl, James Donaghy, J. J. Cowzer, J. F. Grimes, J.P., and Dr. S. E. A. Acheson were present, and Mr. D. L. Kirkpatrick (secretary) was in attendance.

### Minister's Reply on Health Advisory Council

THE SECRETARY read a letter from the Minister of Health and Local Government, which declared that the object of the Health Advisory Council was to give advice on technical and administrative matters, not to represent the interests of professional organisations. Should any problems arise affecting the organisations of the pharmaceutical profession, the Minister would most certainly consult the Society, and he trusted that the Society would be willing to co-operate with the Health Advisory Council if the latter body sought help by way of consultation with the Society or any of its members in connexion with pharmaceutical questions.

### Licences

Members and Associates were reminded that the annual licence to keep open shop, in accordance with Section 17 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act (Northern Ireland), 1925, would fall due on December 31. Remittances should be sent to the Registrar, Ministry of Home Affairs, Stormont, Belfast, on or before January 1, 1945.

It was intimated that a post-graduate course for pharmaceutical chemists would commence in the pharmacy laboratory of the College of Technology, Belfast, on Wednesday, February 21, 1945, continuing every Wednesday afternoon from 2.30-4.30 p.m. until March 28. The course would cover knowledge of bacteria, water, isotonic solutions, oil, filtration, glass, etc. Applications for tickets should be made early to the College of Technology, Belfast, as only forty tickets will be issued for each set of lectures.

### Licenciateship and Membership

The sealing of the certificates of new licenciates was proposed by Mr. J. W. GRAY, seconded by Mr. JAMES McDOWELL, and passed. Miss E. V. Patterson, Fort-

view House, Saintfield, Belfast, was elected a member of the Society on the proposition of Mr. J. McGREGOR, seconded by Mr. JAMES IRWIN.

MR. MOORE reported having visited Sir Thomas McMullan, D.L., who asked him to convey his thanks to the president and Council for their letter of sympathy on his illness, and to reciprocate the good wishes contained therein. He hoped shortly to resume attendance at Council meetings.

## NORTH LONDON RECEIVES DELEGATES' REPORTS

At a meeting of the North Metropolitan Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society held on December 1, the delegates to the Society's Branch Representatives' meeting reported to members. MR. DICKSON attributed the smallness of the discussion on remuneration under a national health service to the fact that most proprietor pharmacists were not in a position to produce figures. If pharmacists were to give their very best service in such a service increased fees were essential. It was well known, he said, that the Government was not parsimonious over a public service, but they would scrutinise carefully any demands made by pharmacists. Several employee members were concerned at the effect which the low scale of wages recently agreed upon by the National Joint Industrial Council for Retail Pharmacy might have on negotiations for increased dispensing fees, but MR. HEARLE replied that the National Pharmaceutical Union used actual salary figures.

MR. SPENCER reported in detail the fate of two amendments sent by the Branch and put by him at the Conference. Considerable discussion and criticism arose over the manner in which certain amendments had been reported in the pharmaceutical Press, which had led to a false impression in the minds of members, and MR. ARMITAGE proposed "that in order to obtain published reports of future Branch Representatives' meetings without undue delay, pharmaceutical Press representatives should be invited to attend in their official capacity." This was duly seconded and agreed. It was the impression of the delegates that the final form of the amendment proposed by MR. ATKINSON was "that dispensing should be done by or under the supervision of a pharmacist." THE CHAIRMAN and SECRETARY respectively reported on the remaining two papers.



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*Official organ of The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, The Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, The Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland and of other Chemists' Societies in the Empire*

VOL. CXLII DECEMBER 23, 1944 NO. 3385

*The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in this paper or described in its editorial columns should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.*

## Surplus Disposal Machinery

On a recent occasion (C. & D., August 19, p. 197) we reviewed and discussed the Government's plans for disposing of surpluses of stores, as set out in a White Paper. Largely arising out of that White Paper, the Select Committee on National Expenditure, in its ninth report of the session and eighty-eighth of the series, has, after considering all the criticisms raised in the House of Commons, concerned itself to find out what machinery has been evolved to implement the policy.

### Points Examined

Evidence on departmental arrangements has been heard from representatives of the Treasury, Board of Trade, and Ministry of Supply, and the question has been examined from the following aspects:—

1. Arrangements made by Departments to prevent avoidable surpluses arising.
2. Machinery for ensuring that surpluses are fully known to the Department concerned and promptly disposed of.
3. Methods for ensuring that surpluses of one Department are available to others.
4. Disposal to the public of stores which can profitably be re-used.

5. Disposal for scrap of material which has no further use.

6. Nature and quantity of surpluses which have arisen.

With the remarks on disposal of scrap metal we need not concern ourselves. What is important to the trade is that a scheme has been devised for all goods which is claimed to secure "a proper distribution of surplus stores to the public advantage and the avoidance of the scandals which accompanied the disposal of such stores after the last war." Of this the report states "whether or not the scheme requires modification can only be seen when it has started to work." The Committee therefore urges an immediate try-out on current surpluses. Dissatisfaction is expressed at the arrangements for choosing Departments to deal with particular classes of goods. Flexibility should not be gained, it is urged, at the expense of confusion by which trades and industries involved are left uncertain which Department is concerned. A final choice of Disposal and Negotiating Departments should be made as soon as possible.

A further recommendation is that actual relief needs for liberated territories can and should now be ascertained. Not only so, but wherever possible national assets no longer required for war purposes should be used for national and colonial reconstruction after the war. Continued encouragement needs to be given to departments to seek to use such assets in furtherance of post-war planning, and to plan with the knowledge that certain assets will be available.

An appendix to the report comprises the Treasury's memorandum on the Committee's previous report on the same subject. Copies are obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office.

## Brothers in Invention

THE introduction of gutta percha into this country in 1843 was the subject of a brief note in our issue of December 25, 1943 (p. 645). The first patent of which gutta percha was the subject was, however, taken out in the year following the reading of a paper upon the substance at the Royal Society of Arts by Dr. Montgomerie. Two points that are of some interest to the trade



in connexion with the patent were brought out by Mr. Walter C. Hancock, who presided at a meeting held, appropriately, under the auspices of the R.S.A., earlier in the year, at which a paper on "Gutta Percha and Balata" was read by Mr. J. N. Dean, B.Sc. (technical manager of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Co., Ltd.).

### "Stoppers, Corks and Other Things"

The first point is that the patent was for "improvements in stoppers, corks, and other things in which was used a new vegetable extract which has recently come to this country." Work along these lines was continued by the patentee, and a factory, largely for experimental purposes, was opened in 1846 by a specially formed Gutta Percha Co. It does not seem likely today that there would have been any great chance of survival for the company on such restricted lines, if we are to judge by the rarity of stoppers made of this material today; but, fortunately for the company, a new technical development, namely, the use of gutta percha as a covering for telegraph cables, introduced an immensely more important and voluminous demand for the substance. Today, of course, gutta percha has only a minor application in the drug and chemical trades. The other point of interest is that the patentee, a grandfather of the chairman of the meeting, was a Mr. Charles Hancock, whose brother Thomas was intimately associated with the early development of rubber (see THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST Annual Special Issue, 1939. I. 673). Charles was the youngest of a family of four daughters and eight sons, of whom Thomas was the second son. The two brothers evidently shared what appears to have been a family interest in engineering, science and invention, and it may thus not be entirely a matter of coincidence that each was responsible for inventions dealing with naturally-occurring hydrocarbons of somewhat similar origin and properties. The subsequent history of the industries derived from the two products has been on divergent lines, but it is to be noted that, after 100 years of extensive use, each is threatened by a synthetic rival—rubber by butadiene and other compounds, and gutta percha by polyethylene.

## Chillie Paste

WHAT is chillie paste? We know of no one article that *should* be supplied by a manufacturing house when an order for chillie paste is received from a retailer. What *would* be supplied would be either a product made to a formula owned by the manufacturing house—and manufacturers are tenacious of "the rule of the house" in this matter—or, if no such product exists, in all probability the compound capsicum ointment of the British Pharmaceutical Codex. In sales of chillie paste by retail, the best course is either to offer customers a choice where more than one make is kept in stock; or, where only one make is stocked, to mention the fact before selling. From the contents of the preceding sentence it follows that customers, when being served with chillie paste, should have their attention drawn to what they are buying. There can then be no question of a sale "to the prejudice of the purchaser." We may add that, as chemists are no doubt aware, a distinction is to be drawn between the authority of the British Pharmacopœia and that of the British Pharmaceutical Codex as presumptive standards. The first rests on a section of an Act of Parliament; the second does not. On the general question of the origin of the B.P.C. formula, the following passage from the sixth edition (1905) of "Pharmaceutical Formulas" may be of interest. After referring to a well-known proprietary brand, the note continues:—

"Another preparation has long been sold in the Midlands as a substitute under the name chillie paste, and the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, introduced an imitation under the name *Unguentum capsici*. . . . Previously the British Pharmaceutical Conference published a formula . . . which gives a product too strong for tender skins, hence, no doubt, the B.P.'s adoption of a modification of the first of the subjoined formulas . . ."

Since the first B.P.C. formula appeared other ingredients have been added to it, possibly with the idea of toning down the irritant tendency of the original preparation. The reduction in the proportion of oleoresin of capsicum in the 1934 B.P.C. is approximately balanced by the increase in its strength.

## CHEMISTS' FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

A MEETING of the council of the Chemists' Friends Association was held in London on November 30, Mr. F. J. Smith in the chair. The council was informed of the impending retirement of Mr. Charles Jephcott as sales manager of Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd. Both Mr. Jephcott and the company have been staunch supporters of the movement since its inception, and it was proposed by THE PRESIDENT, seconded by MR. MALLINSON, and carried unanimously, that a letter should be sent to Mr. Jephcott conveying the good wishes of the council and wishing him many years of happy retirement.

### Appreciation from Northern Ireland

A letter was received from the secretary of the Ulster Chemists' Association expressing appreciation on behalf of chemists in Northern Ireland of the work of the Chemists' Friends Association and the service that had been provided in spite of war-time difficulties.

### Membership

Two applications for manufacturer membership of the Chemists' Friends Association were both refused. Two applications from manufacturer members for additions to the schedules of existing C.F. agreements were referred to enable the manufacturers either to make slight alterations in the presenta-

tion of the products offered, or to submit additional information relating thereto. Five applications from wholesalers to be included in the approved list of distributors by wholesale of C.F. goods were considered; two were accepted subject to certain conditions being fulfilled. In two instances consideration was deferred until the termination of hostilities in Europe; one application was refused.

### Trustees

Messrs. R. C. Feather and S. J. Stearn were elected trustees for the Association.

### Agents in Northern Ireland

Full consideration of the question involved in the appointment of special agents in Northern Ireland by C.F. manufacturers was deferred to enable the matter to be referred to the Northern Ireland C.F. Committee to be appointed by the council at its January meeting.

### Applications for the Maintenance of Supply

The council considered twenty-three applications for the maintenance of supply of C.F. products to businesses temporarily converted into drug stores. Twenty-one were accepted and two refused. The council also reviewed an application that had been approved at a previous meeting, confirming its decision then given.

## SCOTTISH PANEL CHEMISTS' COUNCIL

A MEETING of the General Council of Panel Chemists (Scotland) was held in Edinburgh on November 29, Mr. F. W. M. Bennett in the chair. The chairman referred with regret to the loss by death of Mr. William F. Hay, better known as "Hay of Aberdeen." Mr. Hay, he said, was one of the stalwarts of Scottish pharmacy, and had spent a lifetime of service in the interests of their profession. He was a member of the General Council, and had been a member of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee from 1929-44. From 1933-44 he was a member of the North British Executive, of which he was vice-chairman, 1937-39, and chairman, 1939-44. In addition, he was an invigilator of written examinations. He was chairman of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Aberdeen in 1932 and chairman of the Scottish Central Pharmaceutical War Committee. MR. MELDRUM said that, as one who was privileged to meet Mr. Hay locally, he had come to realise certain fine aspects of his character. There was no place in

which Mr. Hay was more highly respected and honoured than in Aberdeen.

### Insulin Syringes

THE SECRETARY said that he had written to S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., concerning the difficulty of obtaining insulin syringes at the price quoted in the Drug Tariff. MR. WEIR said that the difficulty complained of had been satisfactorily settled. The Department of Health had issued a letter—almost an instruction—to Insurance Committees, telling them that when a chemist who was unable to supply an insulin syringe at Drug Tariff price noted on the prescription the cost of the syringe he had supplied to his customer, the appropriate price should be allowed to him.

The financial statement, duly audited and showing a favourable balance, was submitted and approved. In accordance with the decision reached at a meeting of the General Council held on December 8, 1943, a deduction had been made from the



income from the expenses fund for transmission to London as a donation to the Society's War Aid Fund. The amount totalled £243 13s. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Innes for his work in auditing the accounts.

### Terms of Service for 1945

It was agreed to continue under the present terms, but that a communication should be sent to the Department of Health pointing out the difficulties of the pharmacists under prevailing conditions. MR. GILMOUR asked whether it was not time for a revision of the items in the Drug Tariff, and THE CHAIRMAN said that he thought the matter should be deferred, as there was likely to be a complete change under the new health service scheme, and the whole

question of the tariff of prices allowed for drugs and appliances, etc., would require to be reorganised.

### Drug Accounts

THE SECRETARY reported that copies of the Drug Accounts Committee report had been circulated on September 19 to Pharmaceutical Committees and to the Standing Committee. He also read a letter from the Central Checking Bureau drawing attention to the irregular manner in which prescriptions were being sent to the Bureau. MR. WILLIAMSON pointed out that, in certain instances, chemists had held back prescriptions in order to make copies for checking purposes. In Glasgow it was thought that an effort should be made to have the "B" form brought into use again.

## NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL UNION

MEETINGS of the Executives of the National Pharmaceutical Union and Chemists' Defence Association were held in London on November 29, Alderman W. J. Tristram in the chair. Reports of meetings of the Accounts, Business Services, Price List, and Central N.H.I. Committees were received.

The Executive adopted a recommendation by the Price List Committee that the N.P.U. scale of dispensing fees, as published in the retail price list, should be revised from January 1, 1945. The secretary's report upon matters that had arisen since the previous meeting was received.

### Reports of N.P.U. Conferences

Reports upon the Conferences of Representatives of Pharmaceutical Committees and of N.P.U. Branch Delegates, held on October 25 and 26, were received. A resolution congratulating the chairman upon the manner in which he presided over these Conferences was unanimously passed. The following resolution was received from the secretary of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Committee:—

That the Manchester Pharmaceutical Committee, after hearing the report of the delegates attending the conference on October 25, wishes to congratulate the N.P.U. Executive and its chairman on the excellent manner in which the business had been arranged and was conducted.

The secretary reported that a letter in the following terms had been sent to the Minister of Health conveying a resolution which had been passed by the Conference of Pharmaceutical Committees on October 25:

SIR,—At a Conference of Pharmaceutical

Committees held on October 25 for the purpose of discussing the White Paper on the National Health Service, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That the conference of Pharmaceutical Committee representatives approves the Government's intention to provide a medical service available to every citizen, and assure the Government of its assistance in establishing a satisfactory pharmaceutical service provided that:—

(a) The details of the scheme have been agreed in consultation with representative pharmaceutical organisations;

(b) there is adequate representation for pharmacy on the controlling bodies under the scheme;

(c) there is separation of prescribing from dispensing under the scheme as is the case under the National Health Insurance Act;

(d) the provision of medicines is arranged through panel chemists, except in the case of in-patients of hospitals and other institutions;

(e) the remuneration of pharmacists is reasonably adequate for the service.

"Further, this Conference assures the Government that, through its appointed representative organisation (the National Pharmaceutical Union), it is prepared to give the fullest possible assistance in overcoming the initial difficulties in the establishment of the new service, so far as the supply of medicines is concerned."

A formal acknowledgment had been received.

### One Plan for Pharmacists

The following resolutions were received from the Crosby Pharmacists' Association

That the Association urges the National Pharmaceutical Union and the Pharmaceutical

Society to formulate one plan representing the views of pharmacists on a national medical service for joint presentation to the Ministry of Health.

That the Association views with concern that the White Paper proposals on a national medical service allocate for payment to doctors and chemists a sum based on pre-war remuneration which, so far as payment to chemists is concerned, is totally inadequate.

These were referred for the attention of the N.P.U. representation on the Joint Committee.

A protest to the Board of Trade by the secretary about short supplies of toilet paper brought the reply that arrangements had been made for an increase in the rate of supply, which it was hoped would go some way towards alleviating the shortage. The Board gave an assurance that the matter would be kept in constant review.

### War Funds

Of three claims received since the previous meeting of the Executive, two had been completed by payments of £14 and £10; in the third a formal claim had not been submitted. Subscriptions had been renewed in respect of 3,550 shops during the current quarter. The Executive also received a copy of the annual report of the N.P.U. War Distress Fund for Proprietor Pharmacists, which had been submitted to the London County Council in accordance with the War Charities Act for the period ended July 31. The amount collected at the time of the meeting totalled £31,295.

Mr. J. HEARLE submitted a report upon the second annual conference of the Council of Retail Distributors, at which the N.P.U. had been represented by himself and Mr. Noble.

### National Health Insurance

THE SECRETARY submitted a report upon a request that had been sent to the Minister of Health asking for an immediate increase in N.H.I. dispensing fees. A reply had been received stating that, on the information at present before him, the Minister could not agree to such a large increase as had been suggested, but that he would be prepared to consider an application for an addition to the fees to meet any demonstrated increase in the general expenses of the chemists' business. It was resolved that the N.P.U. should press forward with its original demands and not agree to negotiate on the basis of a rise in general business expenses. The following were appointed to meet officials of the Ministry of Health to discuss the matter: The

chairman, vice-chairman, and treasurer, together with Mr. Sparshott and the secretary.

### Deposit Charges on Bottles

An approach was reported by THE SECRETARY to have been made to the Ministry of Health asking for an immediate revision of the deposit charges on bottles used for National Health Insurance dispensing. The application was based on a further increase of 10 per cent. in the cost of bottles recently announced by bottle manufacturers. Negotiations in connexion with the matter were proceeding.

### Seventh Addendum

The committee received a copy of a Press notice issued by the British Pharmacopoeia Commission concerning the publication of the Seventh Addendum to the B.P., 1932, and a letter from the Ministry of Health suggesting that the proposed changes for National Health Insurance purposes should come into force on February 1, 1945, the date upon which the Seventh Addendum was to become official. The suggestion of the Ministry was approved.

It was reported to the Executive that there was a considerable shortage of surgical dressings in small packages, particularly 1-, 2-, and 4-oz. packages of lint and cotton wool, and the secretary was asked to investigate the matter and if necessary bring it to the notice of the Ministry of Health in an endeavour to find a satisfactory remedy.

### Chemists' Defence Association

Seven completed claims were approved by the directors, and negotiations in outstanding cases were reported. The settlements included payments of £40, £60 and £42 in respect of dispensed medicines. The unsuitability of Lethane hair oil for ridding dogs and other domestic animals of fleas and nits was again indicated by a further claim arising out of the death of two dogs on which the preparation had been used, and the directors urge members to take note that the preparation is suitable for use in treating the heads of children in accordance with the official directions, but that toxic absorption is likely to occur with domestic animals. Under the "third party risk" indemnity, a claim for personal damages sustained as a result of blackout shutters blowing across a road was settled for £41, and a claim for damage to a customer's clothing resulting from breakage of a display carboy involved a payment of £10.



## CHRISTISON PROFESSOR ON THIOURACIL

THE opening meeting of the session of the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held in Edinburgh on November 24, Mr. John Anderson (chairman of the Executive) in the chair. THE CHAIRMAN said they had met to ring up the curtain on another of the long series of scientific sessions associated with the Pharmaceutical Society and with York Place in particular. It was good to note that the interest was well sustained. He thought that members were meeting that night under happier conditions and could see rather more clearly the end of the weary road they had been travelling for the last five years.

THE CHAIRMAN referred with regret to the passing of Mr. W. F. Hay (a former chairman of the Executive), who, as they knew, had been prevented from presiding at their meetings in the previous session owing to illness. They could ill afford to lose a pharmacist of Mr. Hay's type, and his death was a serious loss to Scottish pharmacy. Introducing the lecturer, he said it was interesting to note that almost one hundred years previously Sir Robert Christison had given the inaugural sessional address for the North British Branch. The Christison Chair of Therapeutics was instituted in Edinburgh University in 1919, Professor J. C. Meakins of McGill University, Montreal, being the first occupant of the chair. Professor Dunlop, after qualifying, went into practice in the West End of London, but his interest in research work brought him back to Edinburgh, where he eventually succeeded Professor Murray Lyon as Christison Professor of Therapeutics and Clinical Medicine. He had pleasure in calling upon Professor Derrick Melville Dunlop to give the inaugural sessional address on "Thiouracil in the Treatment of Thyrotoxicosis."

### Thiouracil in Thyrotoxicosis Treatment

PROFESSOR DUNLOP said that as he looked through the list of speakers who had given the inaugural sessional addresses in the past he thought how things had changed for their allied professions in the comparatively short space of thirty-five years. Then medicine was only starting to emerge from its long age of therapeutic nihilism. The basic sciences and bacteriology, pathology and the art of clinical diagnosis had developed rapidly in the latter part of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth, but therapeutics had lagged behind. A great part

of therapy had consisted in the prescribing of elegant placebos which pharmacists at that meeting, or rather their father delicately compounded—elixirs, infusion, tinctures, draughts and confections. They might look upon the passing of this era with a certain sentimental nostalgia, but they knew that, if 80 per cent. of the elegant tonics, cough mixtures and stomachics—once so popular—were poured into the sea, the fishes would be the only ones to suffer, but that insulin, liver extract, mersalyl, neoarsphenamine, stilboestrol, the sulphonamides and penicillin were indeed potent weapons in comparison with the ancient talismans. That even if he made so bold as to address them on thiouracil because he believed it to be a weapon which had a not unimportant part to play in the therapeutics of the future.

### Advances in Treatment

The treatment of thyrotoxicosis had advanced greatly during the last twenty years. Practically the only treatment before that time was rest, sedatives and the continuous administration of iodine, to which patients soon became largely or completely refractory. It was true that in many mild cases in young girls cleared up spontaneously on this *régime*, particularly if a satisfactory solution could be found to domestic worries, unhappiness at work or an affair of the heart. A proportion of more severe cases also eventually burnt themselves out after a greater or less number of years, during which their semi-invalid existence was a misery to themselves and their associates. A large number died from progressive heart failure with auricular fibrillation or in thyrotoxic crisis, often precipitated by an infectious illness. Occasionally, after a physician had battled unsuccessfully with a patient for many years, he would refer her practically *in extremis* to a surgeon. The result, which was almost invariably fatal, confirmed the physician in his complacent belief that surgery should play no part in the disease.

All this became changed when the proper pre-operative use of iodine was introduced by Plummer. Combined with improved operative and anaesthetic techniques, this had reduced operative mortality in the hands of good surgeons to from 2 to 5 per cent.

During the past few decades a number of goitre-producing agents had been described. The effect of many was due to alterations in

dine metabolism which they induced, since simultaneous administration of iodine inhibited their goitrogenic action. Certain other substances, such as cyanides, induced goitres, presumably by inhibiting biologic oxidation of the body cells. Earlier accounts of goitrogenic substances differed as to whether the changes produced could be inhibited by the administration of iodine, as to the resulting metabolic state, and as to the nature of the effective mechanism, but they were the forerunners of the intensive studies which began to be made in 1941, when it was found that the feeding of brassica seeds not only produced goitres but that simultaneous changes occurred in the pituitary, similar to those which followed thyroidectomy. Further, it was discovered that the hyperplasia of the thyroid did not take place after hypophysectomy, showing that the thyroid hyperplasia was mediated by the anterior pituitary. In attempting, a year later, to find the causative factor in the rape seeds, Kennedy suggested that it might be a derivative of thiourea. His observation was slightly anticipated by others who showed that thyroid hyperplasia occurred on administering phenyl-thiourea and sulphonamidine, an effect not influenced by adding iodide to the diet but which could be abolished by effective doses of thyroxine. Subsequent studies showed that the hyperplasia of the acinar cells of the thyroid and the decrease in the colloid of the follicles which followed the administration of sulphonamides and of thiourea and its derivatives was associated with a fall in the basal metabolic rate which became marked after a few weeks, along with a decrease in growth and a diminished food intake. The apparently paradoxical finding was thus made that a hyperplastic thyroid could be produced, similar to a thyrotoxic gland, but associated not with hyperplasia but with hypothyroidism.

#### Interpreting the Histological Picture

The classical work of Marine, however, had shown that the histological picture of thyroid hyperplasia and lack of colloid did not necessarily indicate thyrotoxicosis. It might mean that the thyroid was producing insufficient hormone for the needs of the body and was being stimulated to hyperplasia by the thyrotropic hormone of the pituitary to correct the deficiency. Such hyperplastic glands were often seen when there was an increased hormonal demand at puberty and pregnancy, during prolonged fevers such as tuberculosis, and in

people taking iodine-deficient diets. When iodine was given under such circumstances the thyroid reverted to its normal state.

The clinical association of thyroid hyperplasia and hypothyroidism might be explained on the basis that the goitrogenic agents neutralised thyroxine in the body tissues, the thyroid being again stimulated to hyperplasia by the thyrotropic hormone of the pituitary to correct the deficiency. The fact that the administration of thyroid extract or thyroxine entirely nullified the effect of the goitrogenic agents made this explanation in turn untenable. Results suggested that the goitrogenic agents act directly on the thyroid, preventing the production of thyroid hormone. The effects of goitrogenic compounds on the *in vitro* conversion of radio-active inorganic iodide to thyroxine and diiodotyrosine by surviving thyroid slices were studied, and it was found that thiourea and its derivatives strongly depress this conversion. It was therefore thought that the action of thiourea derivatives was to interfere with the synthesis of thyroid hormone by preventing iodination of tyrosine. Since it was probable that these processes were enzymic in nature the effect of the anti-thyroid substances was probably anti-enzymic.

#### Clinical Application of Thiouracil

Thiouracil was given to patients suffering from hyperthyroidism and with normal thyroid function. After a latent period there was a striking clinical improvement in the hyperthyroid patients with a significant fall in their basal metabolic rates between the ninth and sixteenth day. On discontinuing the drug after two months' treatment the symptoms of hyperthyroidism returned in about four weeks' time. The administration of thiouracil to the patients with normal thyroid function had no effect after a month on their clinical condition or on their basal metabolic rates. The latent period before any effect from thiouracil was noted corresponded with previous experimental observations, in which it was observed that the lowering of metabolism coincided in time with the loss of detectable colloid from the thyroid. It was to be expected that the rate of metabolism would remain constant so long as the store of thyroid hormone in the gland was adequate to supply the organism. When the store became exhausted, the decreased rate of hormone synthesis became apparent. Since the store of thyroid hormone in hyperthyroid glands was greatly decreased



it was not surprising that an effect was produced by thiouracil in thyrotoxic cases in so short a period as ten to fourteen days. They knew, however, that a normal person had a sufficient store of hormone to maintain the metabolism unchanged for from one to three months, which explained the negative results in normal subjects. Thiouracil  $\text{NH}-\text{CO}$  was now invariably



employed in preference to thiourea, as the latter had a disagreeable taste and might produce vomiting, halitosis and conjunctivitis. Thiouracil was free from these objections and had been shown to be the most active of 106 chemical compounds tested for their inhibitory effect on thyroid function.

### Dosages

As it appeared unlikely that the prevention of thyroxine synthesis was an all-or-nothing reaction it seemed probable that a relationship could be assumed between the dose of anti-thyroid substance and the degree of hypothyroidism produced. The aim was to decrease the synthesis of thyroxine to a normal level, but not below it, so that the pituitary would not be unduly stimulated to produce the indirect effect of thyroid hyperplasia. Workers who had reported on the clinical use of thiouracil had employed it for initial treatment in doses varying from 0.6 to 2 gm. daily. Work had shown, however, that thiouracil was rapidly absorbed and rapidly excreted in the urine. After a single dose of 0.2 gm. the highest blood concentration of 2.3 mgm. per cent. was achieved in fifteen minutes. Thereafter it fell rapidly until at eight hours only traces of the drug were present. When 1.2 gm. was given daily it required twenty-four hours to reach a constant rate of excretion in the urine of about 300 mgm. a day and a constant concentration in the blood of 3 mgm. per cent. When 0.6 gm. was given daily it took forty-eight hours to attain this constant blood and urine equilibrium. Apart from the saving of twenty-four hours in producing a maximum concentration it seemed unlikely that 1.2 gm. would exert a greater effect than 0.6 gm. Thiouracil was therefore used in this latter dose for initial treatment, but on several occasions 1.2 gm. and even 2 gm. a day was given. In no case was any increased effect noted from giving these larger doses.

Observers seemed in agreement that a daily maintenance dose of 0.2 gm. was

sufficient to maintain the effect once it had been produced. But while it was possible to be fairly dogmatic that these doses were adequate for initial and maintenance treatment, there was yet insufficient evidence to show that this was the minimum dose required. From limited experience he felt that smaller maintenance doses than 0.2 gm. would prove adequate.

### Basal Metabolic Rate

The basal metabolic rate was a procedure which lacked universality of application in ordinary practice and was certainly not one which should be attempted on out-patients without admitting them to hospital for a night or more if accurate results were to be obtained. Even in hospital they found that many patients became over-anxious about their B.M.R. readings and in consequence artificially high estimations were obtained. The effect of thiouracil on the B.M.R., however, was on the whole so precise and invariable as to make B.M.R. readings superfluous in ordinary practice. The initial dosage might therefore be confidently reduced to a maintenance one in from three to four weeks' time. With one exception treatment had resulted in a substantial increase in weight. An average gain in weight of 4 kilos, or about 9 lb., was registered during the month's treatment in hospital, but the weight almost invariably continued to rise after the patients left hospital, and several increases of well over two stone had been noted. The drug did not act uniformly on all the signs of thyrotoxicosis. The first to show improvement was skin flush and the last tachycardia. Where considerable tachycardia was present it often took a month or longer for thiouracil to control it. Three patients in his series suffered from auricular fibrillation. They knew that after thyroidectomy a proportion of fibrillations—usually those of short duration—returned spontaneously to normal rhythm. Many, however, continued to fibrillate and had to be restored to normal rhythm by the use of quinidine. Rhythm was restored to normal by thiouracil in one of his three cases after a fortnight's treatment. Thiouracil was stopped after this result was obtained and a month later fibrillation recurred, since when normal rhythm had been maintained by maintenance dosage. Glycosuria was found in many cases of thyrotoxicosis in association with a mildly diabetic blood sugar curve. Such cases might be cured of their diabetic tendency by thyroidectomy. There were, of course, other thyrotoxic cases with true

severe diabetes, and this diabetes was not cured, though it might be ameliorated, by thyroidectomy. Two patients in his series had thyrotoxic diabetes with moderate diabetic sugar curves. In both cases thiouracil restored their sugar metabolism to normal. The exophthalmos of the patients was not materially benefited by thiouracil; on the average this feature was definitely improved by thyroidectomy. On the whole it had been found that thiouracil in the dosage used did not greatly influence the size of the goitre.

### Toxic Effects

The recorded signs of toxicity to thiouracil were fever, enlargement of lymph glands, rashes, swelling of the legs and feet, leucopenia, granulopenia, thrombopenia and acute sensitivity reactions. Of these the only serious signs calling for a cessation of treatment were the blood changes and acute signs of sensitivity. Mortality from thiouracil treatment was lower than from thyroidectomy, even in the hands of the best surgeons. Contrary to expectation thiouracil treatment did not usually depress the white blood count, which it usually increased. Untreated thyrotoxicosis was associated with a mild leucopenia, and as the thyrotoxic state was improved by thiouracil the count on the average rose significantly.

From this study it might be tentatively suggested that the results of thiouracil treatment had been at least comparable with those of surgery. Even if this claim were not borne out by future experience it was probable that they had in thiouracil a drug which was superior to iodine in preparing a patient for thyroidectomy. Further, there was a crucial moment to operate upon a patient who had been given iodine—between the seventh and the fourteenth day. If that moment was missed, it was necessary to wait for two or three months, and start all over again, for it was highly dangerous to operate when the patient had become refractory to iodine and the B.M.R. was on the up-grade. With thiouracil the effect was permanent so long as the administration of the drug was continued, and any convenient date could be chosen for operation. It was clear at least that a maintenance dose must be continued for many months, but there were theoretical grounds for believing that ultimate complete cure might result in at least a proportion of cases; for they knew that long-continued hyperplasia might ultimately give way to atrophy of the thyroid, and if they could tide the patient

over till this occurred the state of thyrotoxicosis might be cured.

### Vote of Thanks

DR. NELSON, in proposing a vote of thanks to Professor Dunlop, said they had listened to a great lecture. Not only had they been taken through the fascinations of a wonderful and complex subject with the ease that only a master could attain, but the lecture had been in happy vein.

MR. BEATTIE, seconding, said members all agreed that seldom had they listened to a more interesting lecture. Many pharmacists had been asked from time to time for particulars about thiouracil, but little had been known about the drug. That night, however, they had been given the whole story in an interesting and pleasant manner.

PROFESSOR DRYERRE said he felt privileged to have listened to Professor Dunlop, not only for his dissertation on thiouracil but also for his brief historical survey of the development of prescribing and compounding of medicines. Professor Dunlop had referred to the prescriptions of a former generation, but perhaps he was also aware that medical men still continued with placebos, and he hoped that the medical practitioners of the future would practice what had been so ably preached that night. He asked whether the effect, mentioned by Professor Dunlop, of soya beans producing the condition of myxoedema in rabbits applied also in the case of human beings. Professor Dunlop, being, like himself, a member of the Nutrition Society, would know that members of that society were interested in planning and feeding for the nation in the immediate post-war years, and that soya was to play a large part. Was there some antidote in a mixed diet that would nullify the effect of the soya or was there a substance in soya that must be removed before it became a more general article of food?

THE CHAIRMAN said he would like to be associated officially with the vote of thanks, which he now conveyed to the lecturer.

PROFESSOR DUNLOP, acknowledging the vote of thanks, said he hoped that manufacturing firms, which had done so much for therapeutics in the past, would do still more by bringing about a standard nomenclature in the future. He was afraid thiouracil would be put out with a series of different names, which introduced a difficulty both to pharmacists and doctors. He did not think there was any danger of soya beans causing goitre in human beings when the diet was a mixed one.



## TRADE REPORT

Spot quotations for pharmaceutical chemicals, crude drugs and essential oils represent the prices for wholesale quantities of standard quality. C.i.f. quotations do not include marine war risk insurance and other abnormal charges payable in the present emergency.

### 28 Essex Street, W.C.2, December 20

BUSINESS in the London drug and chemical markets is mainly restricted to the filling of small routine orders. With the approach of the Christmas break and the annual stocktaking, any improvement in volume is unlikely until after the turn of the year. Prices, however, are firm, with changes confined to a few pence either way. In the PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS section, conditions have remained steady throughout the week, with fair supplies of most products available to buyers. Business in CRUDE DRUGS continues extremely quiet. Higher prices continue for shredded and powdered AGAR, strip remaining at the original controlled price. BALSAMS are steady and unchanged. INDIAN BELLADONNA LEAF is firm at the last-quoted price. SUMATRA BENZOIN is practically out of stock, with high prices mentioned for any remaining small lots. CHILLIES, CLOVES and other spices are unchanged, except for PIMENTO, which is fractionally easier. ERGOT remains scarce, with firm prices ruling. GUMS are steady. As noted last week, JABORANDI is substantially dearer and is to be subjected to control. RHUBARB is nominal, and stocks are severely diminished. Quiet conditions obtain for imported SEEDS, DILL being rather easier. TURMERIC continues firm and in good inquiry. VALERIAN ROOT is scarce and dearer. In ESSENTIAL OILS EUCALYPTUS is quoted dearer and NUTMEG shows an advance with the dearer commodity.

### Licences for Jaborandi and Croton Seed

The Directorate of Medical Supplies has informed the Botanical Drug Importers' Section of the London Chamber of Commerce of its intention to recommend licences for the importation of limited quantities of JABORANDI and CROTON SEEDS during the period ending December 31, 1945. The Section has been asked to arrange with the importers concerned for their importation. For this purpose, notification should be sent to the Section at 69 Cannon Street, London, E.C.4, not later than January 5, 1945, by firms which imported jaborandi during the years 1937-42, inclusive, or croton seeds during the years 1936-41, inclusive. By "imported" is meant arranged the shipment and paid the overseas supplier. From the information received, the Section will send qualified importers the necessary forms of declaration on which to return importations, and these will form the basis of recommendations.

### Pharmaceutical Chemicals

ALLOBARBITONE.—Makers' price is steady at 60s. per lb.

AMPHETAMINE.—No change in makers' price of 150s. per lb.

ASPIRIN.—Demand continues fair. Prices, in quantities of 28 lb. to 1 cwt. (containers in brackets), are as follows: 4s. (1-lb.); 3s. 10½d. (4-lb.); 3s. 9½d. (7-lb.); 3s. 9d. (14-lb.); 3s. 8½d. (28-lb.).

BENZYL BENZOATE.—May be had for approved purposes at 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity.

BORAX.—Makers' current rates are unchanged: B.P. quality, granulated, £42 per ton; crystal, £43; powder, £43 10s. Packed in one-cwt. bags, delivered carriage paid in Great Britain in one-ton lots and upwards. Commercial grades, £8 per ton less.

CAFFEINE.—Quantities of 7-lb.-28 lb. are quoted per lb. as follows (supplies subject to D.M.S. approval): ALKALOID, B.P., 34s.; CITRATE, 23s.; SODIUM BENZOATE, 23s.; SODIUM SALICYLATE, 23s. 9d. Tins extra when supplied.

DEXTROSE.—Current prices per lb., in lots of 28-lb.-1 cwt., are as follows (containers in brackets): 1s. 2½d. (1-lb.); 1s. 1½d. (2-lb.); 1s. 0½d. (4-lb.); 11¼d. (7-lb.); 11¼d. (14-lb.); 10¾d. (28-lb.).

MAGNESIUM CARBONATE, LIGHT.—Makers' home market prices per lb., in quantities of 28 lb.-1 cwt., are as follows (containers in brackets): 1s. 3½d. (1-lb.); 1s. 2d. (4-lb.); 1s. 1d. (7-lb.); 1s. 0½d. (14-lb.); 1s. (28-lb.). Prices net one month.

PHENOLPHTHALEIN.—Current rates are as follows: Less than 7 lb., 4s. 8d. per lb.; 7 lb., 4s. 7d.; 14 lb., 4s. 6d.; 28 lb., 4s. 5d.; 1 cwt., 4s. 4d.

THEOBROMINE.—The following prices are ruling: ALKALOID.—Smalls, 44s. 6d. per lb.; 7 lb.-28 lb., 43s. SODIUM SALICYLATE.—Smalls, 26s. 3d.; 7 lb.-28 lb., 25s. 3d. Tins extra when supplied.

### Crude Drugs

AGAR.—Prices are controlled as follows: strip, 30s. per lb.; shred, 32s. 6d.; powder (less than 60 mesh), 34s. 9d.; (60 mesh and over but less than 80 mesh), 35s. 9d.; (80 mesh and over), 38s. 9d.

BALSAMS.—Peru is unchanged at 7s. 9d. per lb., and Canada at 9s. 9d. *Copaiba* and *Tolu* are unobtainable.

BELLADONNA.—Spot price of Indian leaf remains at 6s. 1d. to 6s. 3d. per lb., according to test. Limited supplies of low-testing root (0.25 per cent.) are priced at 2s. 2d. per lb.

**BENZON.**—Spot supplies of Sumatra are practically exhausted.

**CARDAMOMS.**—Prices are unchanged as follows: Aleppy greens, 5s. 6d. per lb.; Aleppy seed, 6s. 6d.; split seed, 5s. 6d.

**CHILLIES.**—Mombasa unchanged at 110s. per cwt.; no other varieties are available.

**CLOVES.**—Spot price of Zanzibar is unchanged at 1s. 4½d. per lb.

**COLOCYNTH.**—Quoted on spot at from 2s. 7½d. to 2s. 9d. per lb., according to holder.

**DIGITALIS LEAVES.**—Portuguese leaf, spot, 140s. per cwt.; English-grown leaf, 2s. 6d. per lb..

**ERGOT.**—Spot price of good-quality material would be 6s. 6d. per lb.

**GUM ACACIA.**—Spot price of Kordofan cleaned sorts is steady at 80s. per cwt.; bleached, spot, quoted at 185s.; Talha, cleaned, 50s. per cwt., landed.

**KAMALA.**—Material with 6 per cent. ash is quoted on spot at 2s. 6d. per lb.

**MERCURY.**—Official quotations range from £68 10s. to £69 15s. per flask, according to conditions and quality, with higher prices for smaller lots and re-distilled grades.

**NUX VOMICA.**—Cochin, spot, steady at 42s. 6d. per cwt.; shipment, 35s., c.i.f.; Canada seed, shipment, 32s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f.

**PAPAIN.**—Good-testing Ceylon may be obtained on spot at 8s. per lb.

**PEPPER.**—Maximum prices of whole pepper, not picked over or cleaned, on sale to processors, 1s. 4d. per lb. for white and 1s. per lb. for black.

**PIMENTO.**—Sellers on spot at the slightly easier price of 1s. 3d. per lb.

**QUASSIA.**—Spot quotations are at from 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt., according to quantity.

**QUILLAIA BARK.**—Crushed or cut, spot, 95s. per cwt.; natural, 80s.; shipment, 65s., c.i.f.

**RHUBARB.**—As noted last week, stocks are becoming depleted; price nominal at 14s. per lb.

**SEEDS.**—Unchanged. Current rates are as follows: **CORIANDER.**—Indian, 75s. per cwt.

**CUMIN.**—Maltese, spot, 105s.; Indian, 100s.

**DILL.**—Easier at 85s. **FENNEL.**—Offered at 85s.

**FENUGREEK.**—May be had at 80s.

**MUSTARD.**—Controlled prices are unchanged.

**SENNA.**—Alexandrian medium pods are at 4s. per lb.; Tinnevely, manufacturing grade, 6d. to 6½d.; hand-picked, 8½d. to 1s.; broken Alexandrian leaves, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; siftings, 1s. 2d.; Tinnevely, No. 1, 9d. to 10½d.; No. 2, 7d. to 7½d.; No. 3, 5½d. to 6d.

**SQUILL.**—Portuguese, dried and sliced, 75s. per cwt.; Indian, 60s.

**STRAMONIUM LEAVES.**—East Indian leaves are offered by dealers at 80s. per cwt.

**STROPHANTHUS SEED.**—100 per cent. Kombé seed may be obtained on spot at 7s. to 7s. 6d. per lb., according to quantity.

**TRAGACANTH.**—Medium grades are quoted as follows: No. 1, white, £130 per cwt.; No. 2,

white, £115; No. 3, white, £100; No. 4, white, £85; pale leaf, £60; amber leaf, £50; dark amber, £40; brown leaf, £30; red-and-brown leaf, £25; red leaf, from £20; hoggy, £12 to £15.

**TURMERIC.**—Sound-quality Madras finger, spot, 60s. per cwt.; some ground at 77s. 6d.

**VALERIAN ROOT.**—Indian root is scarce and again dearer on spot at 115s. per cwt.

**WAXES.**—**BEES'.**—Supplies continue to be available only through members of the Association of Merchant-Distributors of Beeswax, Ltd., at the following prices per cwt., delivered at store U.K., effective from October 16, for ton lots: Madagascar crude, 205s. to 230s.; other sorts of crude, 238s. to 245s. (Calcutta sorts unavailable); British refined, 275s. to 305s.; British bleached slabs, 300s.; British bleached discs, 320s.; Lots of under one ton, at premiums as follows: 10–20 cwt., 2s. 6d. per cwt.; 5–10 cwt., 5s. per cwt.; 1–5 cwt., 10s. per cwt.; under 1 cwt., at premiums as arranged by Association members at their discretion. **CARNAUBA.**—Fatty grey, 480s. per cwt., ex store, in minimum one-bag lots; shipment, 395s., c.i.f.; Primeira, 535s. per cwt., ex store; shipment, 440s., c.i.f.; medium yellow, nominal; shipment, 450s., c.i.f.; chalky grey, nominal; shipment, 380s., c.i.f. (c.i.f. prices include ½ per cent. W.R.I.). **CANDELILLA.**—Under 1 ton, 220s. per cwt.; 1–5 tons, 217s. 6d.; 5 tons and over, 215s., ex store.

## Essential and Expressed Oils

**ANISE (STAR).**—Supply and price positions are unchanged.

**CASTOR.**—“Firsts” are officially quoted at £82 per ton, and “seconds” at £80, both naked ex works, in bulk lots.

**CITRONELLA.**—Ceylon, spot, about 21s. per lb.; Java, scarce at 27s. 6d.

**CLOVE.**—English distillers’ prices are unchanged at 12s. 6d. to 13s. per lb., according to quantity.

**EUCALYPTUS.**—About 8s. 6d. per lb. would be wanted for any available supplies of 70 to 75 per cent. oil.

**GINGERGRASS.**—Any available small spot supplies would be worth approximately 22s. 6d. per lb.

**LINSEED.**—Crude is priced at £62 per ton, naked ex works, for bulk supplies.

**NUTMEG.**—English distillers have advanced their price to 35s. per lb., with lower prices for quantities.

**RAPESEED.**—The official quotation for bulk supplies is at £88 per ton, naked ex works.

**CLOSED ON SATURDAYS.**—Advertisers and subscribers are reminded that owing to war conditions the Head Office of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 28 Essex Street, London, W.C.2, is closed on Saturdays until further notice. Urgent instructions relating to advertising and subscriptions should be sent to the C. & D., 17 Argyle Street, Bath, Somerset.



## CORRESPONDENCE

### Government Bulk Buying

SIR,—In certain quarters it appears to be assumed that Government bulk buying of raw materials is to be a permanent feature of British trade policy. Before the country is committed to post-war schemes of Governmental bulk buying it is surely desirable that the whole subject should be open to discussion and investigation.

All legitimate economic advantages of bulk buying have been secured in the past through the institutions which have developed under free trading. . . . Wheat and other grains, meat, oils and fats, tea, coffee, cocoa, fruit, cotton, wool, rubber, tin and other commodities have entered in the global quantities which constitute bulk buying. The most recent testimony to this is the statistical record of our war effort, which shows to what extent we have had to forge in war-time the bulk supplies of peace-time. The implication in all the new proposals is that a Government can secure benefits which are not available under free and open trading. It is never clear to whom these benefits will accrue, since in many cases the same scheme is supposed to satisfy a producer demand for higher prices and a consumer need for lower prices. In the past . . . the organised commodity markets provided the organisation for continuous trading in a wide range of qualities and grades; they correlated world supply and demand, made and maintained a current uniform world price, and at the same time provided insurance against seasonal fluctuations. In war-time, with strategical considerations predominant, in a disrupted world market and in continuous conditions of extreme shortages which permit consumer choice to be overridden and refinements of quality and grade to be ignored, governments have been able to usurp trading functions and to operate largely independently of economic calculations. This state of affairs might continue indefinitely to the detriment of the consumer, and to conclude from war-time experience that trading in peace-time should be conducted by similar methods is unwarrantable. . . . It is now proposed to place commerce on a political footing and to substitute arbitrary authoritative bargaining for free and open trading.

Yours faithfully,

London, E.C.3. L. A. WILSON,

Secretary,

British Federation of Commodity and  
Allied Trade Associations, Ltd.

## TRADE MARKS

(From "The Trade Marks Journal,"  
November 29)

- "NEPTICE"; for pharmaceutical preparations (human and veterinary), sanitary substances, medical and surgical plasters, etc. Also "NOTOX" for the same (excluding inhalants, pharmaceutical preparations for scalp and medicated shampoos); and "NONTOX" for the same (excluding pharmaceutical preparations for scalp and medicated shampoos) (5). By T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., Neptune Street, Hull. 629,529, 629,723-24 (all Associated).
- "NUCOLIN"; for pharmaceutical preparations (5). By Ashe Laboratories, Ltd., 120-22 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. 629,726.
- "SANISWAN"; for medicated toilet paper, cellulose wadding, sanitary towels, disinfectants and deodorisers (5). By Swan Mill Paper Co., Ltd., 92 Regent Street, London, W.1. 629,766 (Associated).
- "POLYVITAN"; for pharmaceutical preparations (5). By Medo-Chemicals, Ltd., 178 Pentonville Road, London, N.1. 630,218.
- "ZEN-O-PIX"; for all goods (5). By M. Burnley, 27 Thornton Place, Sunderland. 630,783.
- "SOLULETTES"; for all goods (5). By H. Lloyd & Co., Ltd., 20 Asfordby Street, Leicester. 630,784.
- "PERSPEX"; for surgical, medical, dental and veterinary instruments and apparatus, made of acrylic resin (10). By I.C.I. (Plastics), Ltd., Wexham Road, Slough. 626,612 (Associated).

(From "The Trade Marks Journal,"  
December 6)

- "ROHSEM PRODUCTS" (devices showing chemical apparatus, and a man looking through microscope caught in searchlight); for perfumes, cosmetics, toilet preparations, sachets and solutions for waving the hair (3). By Lennard, Lee-Narvill & Co., Ltd., 216 Anlaby Road, Hull. 630,159, 630,155 (both Associated).
- "TAJ MAHAL" (device of same); for toilet preparations (3). By R. Desvaux & Co., 1 Shorrolds Road, Walham Green, London S.W.6. 630,623.
- "COSMETINE"; for toilet preparations for the skin (3). By A. H. Hale, 8 Argyle Street, Bath. B628,046.
- "NUTRIPLEN"; for dietetic foods (5). By H. S. Whiteside & Co., Ltd., Parkhouse Street, Camberwell, London, S.E.5. 627,518 (Associated).
- "TOXIDE"; for fumigating preparations containing carbon dioxide for sanitary purposes (5). By Associated Fumigators, Ltd., 112 Victoria Road, London, E.16. 628,621.
- "SULPHANOLEX"; for pharmaceutical preparations of sulphanilamide (5). By The Times Food Products Co., Ltd., 80-86 Regent Street, London, W.1. 628,765.
- "MOTABS"; for pharmaceutical preparations in tablet form (5). By D. Brooks & Co., Ltd., 271 Wakefield Road, Huddersfield. 629,833.

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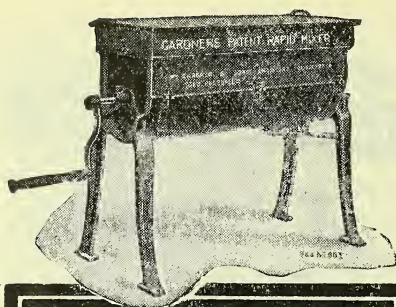
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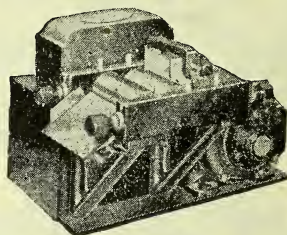
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# "National" Dispensing Bottles

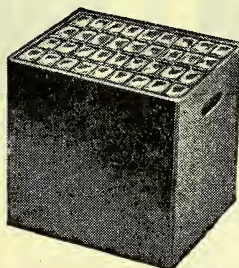
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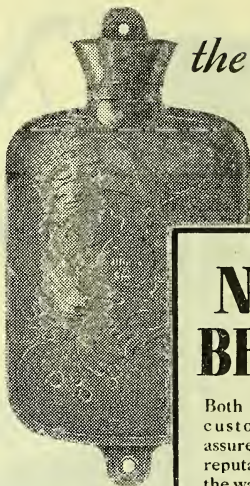
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*M.O.F. is a finely sieved Infant Cereal, processed for quick cooking. Component food factors include Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>, together with calcium, phosphorus, iron and Vitamin D, added in well-balanced proportions.*

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*M.O.F. is recommended for general use in infant dietary from the age of 5 months onwards, given either as an addition to a simple milk mixture, or later as the staple part of a mixed*

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*Suggestions on feeding may be obtained from M.O.F. Information Service which has a Consultant Pediatrician (address in M.O.F. tins).*

Can I be sure of getting a regular supply of M.O.F.?

*By permission of the Authorities concerned, A. & R. Scott are in a position to maintain supplies of M.O.F. for Infant Feeding.*

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Calcium	-	300 mg. per ounce	Vitamin B <sub>1</sub> (Aneurin	
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*Compare this with any other Infant Cereal Food.*



*M.O.F. is prepared by A. & R. Scott Ltd., West Mills, Colinton, Midlothian, Scotland*



# The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST SUPPLEMENT

This Supplement is inserted in every copy of The Chemist & Druggist

DECEMBER 23  
1944

28 ESSEX STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

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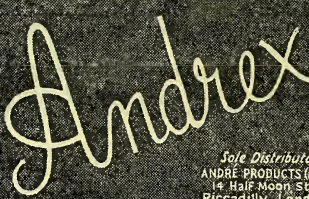
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Applications stating age, qualifications, and experience, together with copies of two recent testimonials, should be sent to the undersigned as soon as possible.

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